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# The Barry GEM



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13TH, 2011

## STORE GIVES £4,000 TO LOCAL GOOD CAUSES



LEFT: the Waitrose store in Barry recently welcomed representatives from 12 local good causes to a cheque presentation evening, at which a total of £4,000 was donated by the supermarket.

• SEE THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 3

## STILL AN INEXHAUSTIBLE BUNDLE OF ENERGY AT THE AGE OF 83!

# 50 years of service to the Barnardo's charity and June is still going strong!

by TIM CHAPMAN

## THREE HORSESHOES

Moulton, Nr. Barry

### CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US

#### CHRISTMAS EVENING PARTY

Tomato & Basil Soup with Fresh Bread Rolls.

Coarse cut Paté, Salad & Homemade Melba Toast.

Prawn Cocktail Salad.

Garlic Mushrooms.

Homemade Salmon Mousse & Melba Toast.

=

Roast Glamorgan Turkey & Stuffing.

Roast Topside of Beef & Yorkshire Pudding.

Chicken a la King.

(Breast of Chicken in a Pepper, Mushroom, White Wine & Cream Sauce)

Wild Mushroom & Brie Wellington

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"THE most remarkable, amazing, hard working woman I have ever met!" That is how one person has described a Barry woman who has just celebrated 50 years of raising funds for Barnardo's.

Mrs June Davis is still an inexhaustible bundle of energy at 83 years of age, having brought up a family, served for 37 years as a junior school teacher, and supported the Barry Barnardo's Helpers' Group for 50 years.

In fact, on the day The GEM visited her, despite the chilly temperature and a ferocious, westerly wind, she was bustling about in her back garden. She broke off for half an hour to recall her early life in Barry and how she got involved in local charity work.

June was born at Crogan Hill - "the part of Barry Road before the Jenner Park area" - and was educated at Barry Girls' Grammar School, and then began her teaching career in Cardiff.

Married to husband Hedley in 1955, she and Hedley began supporting Barnardo's six years later.

"The committee used to meet in Dr William Hughes's surgery in Park Road.

"Dr Hughes was a wonderful character, with a great sense of humour and a true friend to people. He and his wife Cicely were both involved.

"Our activities in support of Barnardo's were numerous - and different!"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)



Mrs June Davis still supports Barnardo's - 50 years after attending her first meeting.

## C&H PLUMBING SUPPLIES

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## FLAG PLEA!

A BARRY primary school has appealed for the return of its Welsh flag, which was taken on Sunday.

Pupils and staff at Ysgol Sant Baruc on St Paul's Avenue arrived on Monday morning to find the flag missing from the pole.

Deputy headteacher Elin Hopkins said: "We are appealing for the person who took the flag to return it.

"The school's CCTV shows a man jumping over the gates at approximately 6.30pm on Sunday, pulling the flag down and cutting it from the ropes."

Wales is in a fever of expectation with the rugby team reaching the World Cup semi-final and flags are at a premium, but there can be no justification for taking one from a local school.

The police are investigating the matter and if anyone has any information, they should contact Barry Police Station on 01446 734451.

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\*During October 2011. Conditions apply.



## 'Why the nonsense at Porthkerry Park?'

**T**HERE are some strange people in Barry! Porthkerry Country Park is a lovely park which many people enjoy walking in. However, some people think that its beauty can be enhanced by hanging white and blue bags of dog excrement in the trees!

In the 'four fields' part of the park, tree planting has been taking place since 2005.

Many local school children have been taking part in this project but again, someone seems to take great delight in deliberately snapping the saplings.

Can anyone explain why they do this?

L. Slade, Barry.

## Barry is caught in a coastal town trap

**A** STUDY by accountancy group UHY Hacker Young has found that seaside towns such as our own Barry have seen the highest rate of business closures in this recession.

The study ranked the UK's top 50 towns and cities by their ability to create new enterprises, and three of the lowest ranking areas were Poole, Southend-on-Sea and Blackpool. Poole was the worst, with the creation of just six businesses per 10,000 in 2010.

Even major seaside towns and cities such as Bournemouth and Southampton, seen as hotbeds of business creation, fared badly.

Coastal towns like Barry and Penarth have been hit very hard because they lack the economic diversity of larger cities, and are still reliant on tourism.

We also suffer from being a commuter feeder to Cardiff; epitomised by the closure of our teacher training college, the county court, the magistrates court and the loss of Geest.

What next? The post office sorting office? Let's hope not.

The report ends by saying: "Seaside towns have never recovered from the collapse of their traditional maritime and tourist industries. While they have tried diversification from reliance on a dwindling tourist spend, that diversification has been a mixed success."

There are lessons here for us. We need more investment; an all-weather visitor attraction on Barry Island; more, and better, hotel provision and an airport with more than package destinations. Otherwise, in 20 years' time, we may be like Rhiwbina, just a suburb of Cardiff.

Christopher Short, Barry.

## A home for heroes?

**A**FTER the war, people of this town and country were promised 'homes fit for heroes.'

What we had is heroes fit for homes and now we haven't even got a home and a meal for people of this age group who would use Gardenhurst.

Brian Millard, Penarth.

## 'Sensible question asked'

**K**EITH Tancock tries to cover up his ignorance of Japanese knotweed by attempting to ridicule the Vale Council (GEM letters, October 6).

If he can use a computer and Google

'Japanese knotweed' he will discover many inter-

esting facts, including that it is officially the most pernicious weed in the UK.

Perhaps he will then comprehend why the Vale Council asked if he had identified whether any Japanese Knotweed was present, and then realise that Japanese Knotweed is no laughing matter.

R N Wescombe, Barry.

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## THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

# Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. **LETTERS AND EMAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER. AN EMAIL ADDRESS ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT!**

We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

## DON'T BE SO SNOOTY ABOUT BARRY ISLAND

**I** WRITE in response to Mrs DE Coombes Herridge's letter in last week's GEM.

Whilst I admire her sentiments about Porthkerry Park, I feel I must take issue with her patronising and derogatory attitude to Barry Island.

As a Barry Island resident, I take regular walks down to Jackson's Bay, along the coastal path, across the headland and Nell's Point, around Whitmore

Bay, up to Friar's Point as far as the Old Harbour.

The views are spectacular, the beaches are beautiful and the people are friendly! All manner of sports and activities such as swimming, kite flying, rock climbing, crabbing, fishing, sandcastle building, dog walking or simply strolling, can be enjoyed here... and all for free!

If visitors want to have an ice cream, a coffee, a snack, a dabble on the amusements or a round of crazy golf, the facilities are there

for them and where's the harm in that?

I am proud of my Island roots; family and friends are always saying how lucky we are to live in such a pleasant place.

We appreciate our Island and feel insulted when people make ill-judged and negative comments about where we live.

Please stop knocking Barry Island and start enjoying all that we have to offer.

Beverley Mackintosh, Barry Island.

## 'Vale councillors are failing us'

**I** MUST congratulate the Vale Council's planning department on the high standard of Cowbridge Secondary School's facilities – that being two all-weather/multi-game surface pitches, an all-weather astrotrurf football pitch, a rugby pitch and four all-weather astrotrurf tennis courts (all with flood-lights).

All this at a cost of £19m (yes, 19 million pounds) while in Barry the largest town in the Vale (and the greatest number of council taxpayers) the facilities are fewer and fewer.

They continue to sell off the green areas of our town, which looks more and more like a concrete open prison. Even our senior citizens had to leave their day centre, Rondel House, a centre that was specially built for them and opened by Prince Charles.

## Have 'millions' really been spent on Island?

**T**HE recent controversy over Coun Ernest's claims that "millions had been spent on Barry Island" prompted me to make a Freedom of Information request to the Vale Council, asking for details of this spend.

The response I received from the council does not, I believe, back up Coun Ernest's claim. I would like to highlight three parts of the council response.

1. The "millions spent on Barry Island improving the facilities".

This included the demolition of the former holiday camp and site clearance (£15,000), funded by the Welsh Government; the construction of Nell's Point Coastal Park and Seawatch Centre (£380,000), funded by the Welsh Government; improvement and regular maintenance of the beach, promenade and public areas and buildings (estimated cost

over five years, £1.1m); highway and car park improvements (£80,000); spending on tourism events (£80,000 pa); and improvements to Barry Island footbridge (£100,000, an estimate of design fees and maintenance work 2009-2011).

This adds up to £2.2 million, with £900,000 funded by the Welsh Government.

2. The fact that "visitor numbers has risen by 25 per cent in just 12 months".

The Vale Council says that this was just an estimate from the beginning of the season and things have changed since then. There was no mention of the Gavin and Stacey effect, or the good weather early in the year.

3. The claim that "hundreds of thousands" had been spent on community centres in improvements.

The answer, in fact, was £154,000 on 12 community centres, so not exactly "hundreds of thousands".

Dennis Harkus, FocusBARRY supporter, Barry.

I can't wait to see the facilities built into the proposed Welsh medium primary school.

We have the local elections in seven months' time (May 2012). This will be your opportunity to get rid of the councillors who have sold our town out.

It is about time we voted for local independent councillors who do not have to toe the party line.

Bryn Evans, FocusBARRY supporter, Barry.

## 'There are councillors who do speak up'

**I** WRITE in reply to a letter from Mr Chris Short of Barry, who questions the effectiveness of the opposition parties on the Vale Council.

On the council there may be opposition members who hardly say or do anything, but I can assure him that certainly is not the case with me. I often ask questions at council. I also keep people informed via the

press and actively speak up for the people I was elected to represent.

As an ex-Labour councillor, Mr Short is probably aware that it is difficult for his former colleagues to do anything as they have to first get permission from their group leader before asking a question or even writing in the press.

That's party politics for you! Coun Richard Bertin, Barry.

## 'Enterprise zone will be a blight on St Athan'

**A**N enterprise zone for aerospace at St Athan! The Welsh government could hardly have chosen a worse time to resurrect the 10-year-old failed plans, with the recession hitting aerospace hard and most of DARA's skilled engineers retired or moved away.

What a dismal start by the new minister, Edwina Hart, to allow her civil servants to bring their false aerospace prospectus out of the back drawer, missing her chance to bury this failed concept of the WDA era.

A fresh minister could

have picked a growing green manufacturing sector like solar electric and renewable energy technologies for St Athan.

Instead, she's picked Cardiff for expanding financial services, just after the disastrous rip-off by the bankers and just when Ed Balls is admitting laxity and over-reliance on this sector.

The choice of the shrinking aerospace industry – both military and civil – removes the pressure on the Assembly and Vale Council to come up with constructive plans. It surely means a blight on the St Athan site for several more years.

Max Wallis, Barry and Vale Friends of the Earth

## Thompson Street makeover 'a complete waste of money'

**A** DOUBLE page spread on the positivity of the £1m makeover of Thompson Street was featured in The GEM on October 6.

I note with particular enthusiasm that the only people interviewed were the traders, nearby residents and, of course, a local Vale councillor.

This double page spread, although well written, was biased in favour of the interviewees.

It certainly seemed to be heavily one sided. I believe a cross section of people from all over the totally neglected areas of Barry should have also been given a chance to voice their opinion.

I conducted a mini poll of the area on September 15 and asked 175 individuals for their opinion of the makeover; 161 said it was a complete waste of public money, or words to similar effect.

Fourteen said it was worth it; you can proba-

bly guess where those 14 individuals work or live!

I thought that The GEM was always unbiased in its approach on sensitive issues, but on this occasion it would seem from the report that this is clearly not the case and totally out of proportion.

Barrie V Evans, FocusBARRY supporter, Barry

**GEM note:** The GEM regularly carries features on areas in Barry and other parts of the Vale.

The purpose is to give local residents and businesses an opportunity to say what is good about where they live and work.

The GEM did include the sentence: 'Although some people have questioned the wisdom of such a large investment in one street, local businesses and residents are adamant their time had come.'

However, we make no apology for highlighting the positive aspects of an area of Barry in such tough economic times.

## Vale Foodbank is a good thing

**I** WOULD like to reply to last week's letter headlined 'Vale Foodbank: it's an absolute disgrace'.

I think the shame should be on DJ Radford for not congratulating the people who are supporting the Vale Foodbank.

I don't think anybody is proud of what is happening in this country

because of the failure of Gordon Brown's government and, without doubt, the banks, who are still 'laughing all the way to the bank'.

But people have lost jobs and worse still, their homes, through total mismanagement of this country, so let's support Vale Foodbank totally – I wonder if DJ Radford will dig into his pocket to help?

J Pycroft, Barry.

## 'THANK YOU' FOR THE HARVEST

**J**UST a 'thank you' to all the pupils in Colcot Primary for taking the time to deliver a Harvest gift of fruit and other items to all the older residents of the area.

What a lovely gesture and a pleasant surprise! Alex Campbell, Barry.

## HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL OCTOBER 20)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
13 Thur	08.47	9.5	21.05	9.6
14 Fri	09.18	9.7	21.34	9.6
15 Sat	09.46	9.6	22.06	9.4
16 Sun	10.17	9.3	22.34	9.1
17 Mon	10.49	9.1	23.03	8.7
18 Tues	11.25	8.6	23.49	8.3
19 Wed			12.08	8.2
20 Thur	00.43	7.9	13.11	7.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

# BILL AND GISELA SAY THANK-YOU

## Couple pay tribute to blood donors who dramatically 'transform lives'

IN THE past, The GEM has been keen to highlight the contribution of those who have donated to the Welsh Blood Service – and one Barry couple wanted to thank those donors publicly.

Bill Williams and Gisela Linton, who live in the Romilly area of the town, have witnessed at first hand how blood donations can make the difference to people's lives.

Bill (72), a former civil engineer who worked in the Middle and Far East, first discovered there was something wrong with him in 1995.

"I was going to work in Libya and had to be

by TIM CHAPMAN

checked out for insurance purposes.

"The doctor said I was fit, but said there were some anomalies in the blood – too many antibodies. I said: 'Surely, that's good?'"

However, Bill was sent to Llandough Hospital where a protein test diagnosed myeloma – cancer of the bone marrow.

Bill explained: "The higher the level of protein the more seriously ill you are."

Early on, the illness was monitored and kept under control through drugs, but on his return to Wales in 1998, Bill

underwent chemotherapy, using a drug invented in Germany.

The treatment eradicates not just the faulty cells, but those functioning properly, in Bill's words it "kills off the good guys and the bad guys" – meaning that he needs transfusions of red cells and platelets.

Whereas years ago, the prognosis for survival might have been five years, Bill has survived for 16 years.

He visits the haematology department two or three times a month, where he says great things are being achieved.

On any given day, more than a dozen people might be receiving vital transfusions of the parts of blood they need.

Bill explained: "There is one young man in his early 30s who has two children and has a form of leukaemia."

"He received new bone marrow from a living donor, an 18-year-old German girl, and it



Gisela and Bill are keen to pay tribute to people who donate to the Welsh Blood Service.

has transformed his life. The only thing is, he has got her hayfever!"

Bill's partner Gisela added: "This year has been a very difficult year for Bill and his fellow patients at the University Hospital of Wales, but I have witnessed the dramatic improvements brought to their lives through the transfusions of donated blood or even specific parts of the blood such as red cells or platelets."

"To those who donate, we thank you all."

Last year, The GEM featured two local men who were recognised for their extraordinary contribution to the Welsh Blood Service at an awards ceremony –

Howard Provis was commended for giving 650 donations of plasma and platelets, and Graham Underdown for giving 800 units.

As you can see from Bill and Gisela's comments, the community-minded spirit of people like Howard and Graham has the power to change and improve lives.

If you want to support the South Wales Myeloma Support Group, you can help it by attending the Vale Mayor's coffee morning at St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street in Barry on October 18 at 10.30am.

The group is planning to run three stalls at the event.

## Store gives £4,000 to local good causes

RECENTLY, Waitrose Barry welcomed representatives from 12 local good causes to a cheque presentation evening, at which a total of £4,000 was donated.

The good causes had taken part in the branch's Community Matters initiative between May and August this year. Each month, three local causes are supported by the branch, with £1,000 being shared between them.

The evening was hosted by assistant customer services manager Camy Pusey and branch partner Vicky Barree.

Cheques were presented for the following amounts: Alzheimer's

Society £510; Good Neighbour Scheme £180; Breast Care Centre at Llandough Hospital £310; Holton Road under-10 FC £230; 5th Barry Sea Scouts £330; Vale Counselling Service £440; Barry Basketball Club £250; Mount Pleasant Baptist Church family fun day £440; Rhose Youth Club £310; New Horizons Day Centre £310; Bullies Out £430; The Pomaria Project £260.

Waitrose Barry would also like to remind all local community groups that the branch is offering the free use of its coffee shop to any group looking for a space to hold meetings.

It is available Monday to Friday from 6pm to 8pm and, during that time, free tea and coffee will be provided.

For more information, contact Vicky Barree on 01446 737173.

## Thanks for coverage

I WOULD like to thank The GEM on behalf of Barry Town Council for the coverage of the recent theft of signage at Barry Cemetery.

I hope that the incident has warned the public, and to report anything suspicious to the police.

Cliff Lewis,  
Town Clerk.

## Dow Corning incident goes to a scrutiny committee

INDEPENDENT councillor Richard Bertin has welcomed the decision that a report is to be put to a scrutiny committee on the recent incident at Barry's Dow Corning chemical plant.

Local residents in the town were given an early morning wake-up call on Saturday, October 1, when the alarm was sounded following a

release of hydrogen chloride on site.

Coun Bertin said: "I am pleased that this matter is going to be discussed at the next housing and public protection meeting on November 2. At it, I will be asking questions on how communication with residents can be improved."

Coun Bertin said the meeting starts at 6pm at Barry Civic Offices and members of the public are welcome to attend.

## Man is charged with robbery

POLICE investigating the robbery of a Penarth taxi driver which occurred shortly before 2.30am on March 20, charged an 18-year-old local man with the offence.

He is scheduled to appear before Barry Magistrates Court on Friday, October 14.

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Chicken/Lamb Tikka ..... £2.80  
Sheek Kebab ..... £2.70  
Mixed Grill ..... £3.25  
Mughal Lamb Chops ..... £3.10  
Tikka Roll (new) ..... £2.75  
Garlic Murgh Tikka ..... £2.95  
Chilli Murgh Tikka (new) ..... £2.90  
Garlic Chilli Chat (new) ..... £2.95  
Motar Paneer Chat (new) ..... £2.75  
Aloo Chat Poori (V) (new) ..... £2.60  
Chingri Jhingra ..... £4.25  
Paneer Tikka (V) ..... £2.80  
Chingri Poori ..... £2.95  
Royal Platter (for 2) ..... £5.95  
Sabzi Platter (for 2) (V) ..... £5.50

Kochi Tikka (new) ..... £6.25

Marinated chicken or lamb tikka cooked with fresh spices in a bhuna sauce topped up with deep fried onions.

Maharaja Special (new) ..... £6.50

Grilled chicken tikka with mince lamb cooked with onions and fresh herbs, topped with egg and tomato.

Shakoti Murgh/Gosht (n) (new) ..... £5.95

Chicken or lamb cooked slightly hot in a coconut and almond sauce.

Saag Keema (new) ..... £5.95

Mutton mince lamb with spinach and our chef's special herbs and spices.

Shahi Honey Korma (n) (new) ..... £5.95

Chicken or lamb cooked in a very mild almond and coconut sauce with honey.

Golden King Prawn (new) ..... £8.25

Fresh water large king prawns cooked with fresh garlic and ginger in a thick slightly hot sauce.

Samba Murgh/Gosht (new) ..... £5.75

Chicken or lamb cooked with fresh vegetables in a medium sauce.

Jalapeno Hot Fry (new) ..... £6.25

Chicken or lamb cooked with our chef's special spices in a slightly hot sauce, topped with jalapeno peppers.

Hariyali Tikka (new) ..... £6.25

Marinated chicken or lamb tikka cooked with spinach and English mustard in a medium spiced sauce.

Peri Peri Tikka (new) ..... £6.25

Marinated chicken or lamb tikka cooked with green beans, peas, fresh green chillies and garlic in a slightly hot sauce.

Hash Jalfrez (Duck) ..... £7.50

Marinated duck stir-fried with onions, peppers, tomatoes, green chillies and simmered in a light tomato gravy.

Hash Karahi (Duck) ..... £7.50

Marinated duck cooked with garlic, ginger, peppers and coriander. Served with a richly spiced sauce and with a hint of our chef's unique ground spices.

Hash Masala (n) (Duck) ..... £7.50

Marinated duck cooked in traditional masala sauce.

#### MUGHAL DISHES

Mughlai Murgh/Gosht ..... £5.95

Chicken/lamb cooked in a thick medium sauce with chef's unique ground spices.

Mughlai Garlic Chilli ..... £6.25

Chicken tikka cooked with fresh garlic and chilli with caramelised onion with a hint of chef's ground spices.

Mughlai Mossaka (n) ..... £6.75

Char-grilled chicken with mince lamb and egg in a creamy mild almond masala sauce.

Mughlai Nizami ..... £6.50

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Mughlai Karahi ..... £6.25

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Laal Maas ..... £6.10

Chicken Tikka Masala (n) ..... £5.80

Chicken/Lamb Jalfrez ..... £5.80

Chicken/Lamb Pasanda (n) ..... £5.95

Chicken/Lamb Makhani (n) ..... £5.95

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Lamb	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10	£5.10
Prawn	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25	£5.25
Chicken/ Lamb Tikka	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70	£5.70
Vegetable	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95	£3.95
King Prawn	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50	£7.50
Fish	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25	£6.25

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# Pensioners targeted in series of 'despicable' distraction burglaries

**DETECTIVES** have named two brothers they want to speak to after three local pensioners were targeted in "despicable" distraction burglaries.

South Wales Police are looking into a series of seven burglaries in their area, including one in Bridgend, one in Barry and one in Wenvoe in the Vale of Glamorgan, which they say may be linked to a series of similar offences across the UK.

Police say they are keen to trace two brothers, Michael Steven Myers, 31, and Patrick Joseph Myers, 30, who they want to speak to in connection with the crimes.

In August this year, a man knocked at the home of an 89-year-old woman from Bridgend, claiming that someone had broken the window at the back of her house with a catapult. While the pensioner was distracted, the man stole cash from her home.

In the same month in



Patrick Myers



Michael Myers

Wenvoe, an 85-year-old woman reported finding an intruder in the house, who claimed to have found a boy who had smashed her back window. Cash was stolen during this incident.

In September, a 94-year-old man in Barry was targeted. In this case, a man shouted through the letterbox stating his son had possibly smashed a rear window with a catapult and asking to pay for the damages.

An accomplice was also reported to be in the house, police said.

Detectives said similar techniques were used to gain access to homes of elderly people in the

incidents in Bridgend, the Vale of Glamorgan and in Cardiff.

A national police group believes the same men might also be responsible for 16 similar offences in Wiltshire, Gloucester, Thames Valley, West Mercia, Gwent, London, and the West Midlands over the summer.

Thousands of pounds in cash and other items have been stolen from the victims, aged in their 80s and 90s. In almost every case the burglars have fabricated a story about smashing a window then wanting to inspect the damage.

Detective Chief Inspector Andy Davies from South Wales Police said: "This type of crime is despicable. Victims of distraction burglary can suffer terribly, both emotionally and physically."

"The average age of the victims in south Wales is 86, which gives you an idea of how cowardly these burglars are in targeting the most vulnerable people in our communities."

"We are working with police forces across the country to track down those responsible so they can be brought to justice."

The 23 burglaries are

being investigated by Operation Liberal, a national unit that analyses intelligence and maintains a database of crimes, offenders, vehicles, forensic information and images.

Police said the Myers brothers have strong links to south Wales, particularly Cardiff.

Michael Myers is wanted after absconding from prison in 2010 following his sentencing of eight years for a distraction burglary in 2008.

Police also want to speak to his younger brother about a burglary in the Metropolitan Police area.

DCI Davies, who is based in Cardiff, added: "We will pursue those responsible until they are caught to give the victims peace of mind and to protect others. It is vital people do not allow strangers into their home and that they check the identity of any callers."

For advice on how to deal with unannounced doorstep callers and how people can help others, log onto [www.doorstep-callers.co.uk](http://www.doorstep-callers.co.uk).

Anyone with information is asked to call 02920 774 233 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Show invites entries

**THIS year marks the 87th annual show of the Barry and District Chrysanthemum Society.**

As in past years, it will be held at the Salem Baptist church hall in Beryl Road, and doors are open at 1.30pm on November 2.

Exhibitors are invited to bring exhibits on Tuesday, November 1, between 5.30pm and 8pm or on November 2 from 8.30am to 9.30am. Judging will commence at 10.30am.

Divisions A, B and C will be for the Chrysanthemum classes, division D will be for container grown plants, division E will be for domestic items ranging from biscuits, cakes, gateaux, marmalade, jam, Division F is the handicraft section and will contain knitted items, crochet, embroidery, flower arrangement or a painting.

Anybody wishing to enter should contact K Williams at 27 Regent Street for an entry form or phone 01446 741733 for a form. Alternatively, turn up on Tuesday night at Salem Baptist Church between 5.30pm and 8pm.



**LEFT:** Take your partners for the Soul in Dinas Tea Dance, which was held in the Parish Hall.

## Soul in Dinas energises the local community



Preparing a park bench to be painted.



Soul in Dinas Action week.

**IN early February,** members of the churches in Dinas Powys came together to organise this year's 'Soul in Dinas' events.

Lots of activities were planned, including a tea dance, a fun day and an action week.

On August 4, a 1940s-style tea dance was held in the Parish Hall, Dinas Powys. The hall was decorated with bunting and Union Jack flags.

Delicious home-made sandwiches and cakes were prepared and provided by people from the local churches.

Barbara Wilson, from Barry, organised the dancing.

Posters had been put up around the village, and invitations sent to the Wednesday Club, sheltered housing and various churches.

More than 90 people came to the event and all appeared to enjoy themselves.

It was a great success! On August 20, approximately 100 people from the local area attended the 'Soul in Dinas Fun Day'.

Although it was damp and cloudy, the fun day went ahead in the grounds of Murch Junior School.

Pat West, one of the organisers, said: "It was really nice that we were able to use the premises. The Soul in Dinas team would like to thank Mr Thomas and Mr Lambert, the headteacher and caretaker, for letting us use the school grounds."

There was a large variety of stalls and activities on offer, including a Fairtrade stall, soft toy and book stalls, craft area, face paints, guess the name of the teddy bear, and guess the amount of money in a jar.

The younger children especially enjoyed knocking down the cans

and throwing wet sponges at each other!

Ten-year-old Rosanna Davies enthusiastically said: "It makes a change to go to a fun day where you can get so much for free!"

**Action Week** FROM August 22 to 27, more than 60 volunteers came together to take part in the Soul in Dinas Action Week.

Three teams were involved in the action week - the Action Team, the Care Team and the Prayer Team.

The biggest team was the Action Team. It went out every day in two groups. The team cleared gardens, trimmed hedges, painted fences and collected litter.

Soul in Dinas was proud to be asked to paint



the benches on The Common, by the Community Council. There were 17 benches which had to be prepared and then painted black.

The Care Team went out every afternoon. They visited people who wanted help. They helped with chores, like shopping and cleaning.

The Prayer Team went out in twos every morn-

ing. Each pair took a different route. They told people they met about Soul in Dinas and they asked them if they wanted any jobs done, or if they wanted prayer.

More than 30 jobs were completed over the week. A big well done and thank you to all involved.

By Rebekah West (age 11)

## Arrows on film

**THE RAF's most famous aerobatic team, the Red Arrows, were the subject of a film shown to members of Penarth Aviation Society (PAS) last Friday.**

It revealed behind-the-scenes training and the preparation that goes into the team's elite formation flying, which has thrilled spectators in more than 53 countries with over 4,300 demonstrations.

The film followed the PAS annual general meeting, at which David Ephraim was re-elected general secretary and Tonals Evans re-elected treasurer.

The next PAS meeting is on November 4, when John Evans will give the second part of his talk on the Gloster Aircraft Company.

The society meets at the Penarth Conservative Club on the first Friday of every month at 7.45pm for 8pm. Visitors are welcome.

## Move to form tenants' group

**BARRY councillor Richard Bertin is looking to set up a tenants' campaigning group to have a voice on housing issues.**

He explained: "Tenant participation is important as local residents can influence

decisions and take part in discussions relating to the Vale Council housing service.

"It is intended that if a group is established, it will act in a voluntary capacity to promote the interests of local tenants."

"There are currently groups active in other areas of the Vale,

but nothing in the Treharne area of Barry."

Coun Bertin added: "I am therefore asking local residents to get involved and to help set up a group in this area so they can have their say on 01446 736227 or email [rjbartin@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:rjbartin@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)."

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## WRVS PENARTH'S ANNIVERSARY DAY



The ladies of Penarth WRVS are celebrating the group's 50th anniversary

**ON October 4 at the Paget Rooms, the WRVS Penarth celebrated its 50th year.**

Guests included Coun Anthony Ernest and his wife Joyce (mayor of Penarth), the deputy mayor of the Vale, Colin Osborne and his wife Ruby, and Couns Maggie Payne and Angela Cash from Barry Town Council.

The club was started by six ladies in 1961. As it grew, membership reached 300 at its height. The club has always

provided lunches, coach trips and entertainment every week, and still does so today.

Tony and Hank provided the music; many thanks to them.

After singing a rousing 'Happy Birthday', Coun Ernest thanked all the WRVS ladies for the hard work and dedication. The raffle was then drawn, with many exciting prizes.

The group looks forward to its next 50 years.



## 'WELSH TWANG' LANDS DEVON HIS ROLE

# Youngster's role in £4m advertising campaign

A SIX-YEAR-OLD Barry youngster is the new face of 'Heinz Beanz' - taking a major role in a TV advert that is the centrepiece of a £4m campaign.

In just a few short months, Devon Ruckley has notched up a number of notable acting successes.

Mum Faye told The GEM: "A total of 150 youngsters turned up at the auditions for the new Heinz Beanz advertisement."

by TIM CHAPMAN

"They were held in London and Manchester. We went up on a Thursday, and on the Monday the people casting the advert were back in touch to say they wanted to see him again."

The youngsters the producers had seen were either boys with northern English or London accents, but part of the attraction of Devon was his 'Welsh twang'.

The producers said Devon was "head and shoulders above" the other contenders and he was offered the part.

Once he had been selected, the production company had to start the search for an actress who would be compatible with Devon to play his mum.

In the advertisement, which was filmed this summer in a picture perfect Cotswold village and cost £500,000, Devon played the role of Jack, who gives a toy to another boy in exchange for Heinz Beanz.

The advert is currently being screened on ITV1, ITV2 and Channel 5.

Because Devon is so young there were restrictions on how long he could work, so a 'body double' was employed for certain shots.

But that is not all! This year, he has been successful in six out of the seven auditions he has attended!

Earlier this year, Devon featured in a shoot highlighting the little-known affliction of childhood arthritis.

He followed that up with an NHS advert, which encouraged



Devon with his elder brother Jay.

'smoke-free homes'.

But possibly his biggest role to date is in *The Story of Wales*, a landmark television series to be screened next year.

Narrated by BBC newsreader Huw Edwards, it tells the history of Wales from pre-history to the modern age.

The drama documentary is a series of six programmes and Devon appears in the first episode playing a Druid child, whose family is forced from their home because they are unable to pay the rent. They end up having to roam the Welsh countryside.

In the summer, he also filmed *100 Miles*, a short film in which a young boy and girl catch the train to go and see their grandfather.

Devon, a pupil at All Saints Primary School, said: "I like playing football, and acting. It's nice when I see myself on TV - I like the money too!"

Acting is in the Ruckley family genes. Devon's elder brother, Jay, is already an established TV star, who

appeared in CBeebies' *Grandpa in my Pocket*, which has been sold to 100 countries worldwide.

His latest role is doing a voiceover in *The Itch of the Golden Nit* which also stars the voices of Catherine Tate, David Walliams, David Tennant and Pixie Lott.

Jay, 13, who has a large body of work on TV and in the theatre behind him, is keen to make acting his profession. He said: "I do enjoy performing, and when I've been filming, people have been very encouraging."

## Readings at church

CADOXTON Christian Spiritualist Church, Kenilworth Road, Barry, is holding a day of readings on October 2 (morning 10am-12 noon and afternoon 1.30pm-3pm).

Fees charged will go to church funds.

For more information, contact Marjorie (01446 746670) or Gareth (07765 279269).

## Cancer Research recognises efforts of committee

THE Penarth local committee of Cancer Research UK has raised a staggering £200,000 since it was formed in 1961.

A 'certificate of appreciation' was presented to Ann Austin, chairman of the local committee by the Mayor of Penarth, Coun Anthony Ernest, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Ann Austin said: "I wish to thank the supporters of Penarth and the surrounding areas for their continued support and I am delighted to receive this certificate on their behalf."

To complete the 50th anniversary celebrations at Penarth local committee's fundraising event, long service awards were presented to the committee members by Lynn Carter, regional manager, Cancer Research UK.

Linda Strange, area volunteer manager for Cancer Research UK, said: "Cancer Research UK is proud of Penarth local committee members past and present for the fundraising work carried out in the com-

## June's half century of Barnado's service

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

For years, Hedley, the choirmaster at All Saints Church, helped to arrange Christmas concerts in Queen Street, with the help of Cantonian High School band and choir, often raising more than £1,000 a time for the charity.

The event went on for many years and became a popular fixture in the Barry Christmas calendar.

The couple also 'imported' Laura Ashley outfits from Bath, and stored them at home, before holding fundraising fashion sales at Bingles.

June, who has a daughter Bethan and son Ioan, was widowed 14 years ago, but her enthusiasm for helping others has never wavered.

"As a committee, we have soldiered on over the decades."

"Throughout most of that time, the number of people involved on the helpers' group has stayed around the 12 mark."

"Nowadays, we still organise local events - mince pies and carols; hot cross buns and coffee at Easter; a strawberry tea in the summer; and we're just starting to organise a cheese and wine event."

All this, and June still works in the family's restaurant, 'Hedley's', based at the Knap.

"I do weekends, and during the week when needed," she said.

Her neighbour, Lisa Hadley, contacted The GEM because she wanted June's 50 years of selfless service not to go unrecognised.

Lisa said: "She is the most remarkable, amazing, hard-working woman I have ever met."

"June is 83 years of age, but never stops working, caring and putting others before herself."

"She plays bowls for the Millward ladies' team, is president of the local floral society and works in the evenings at the restaurant."

Although she has reached a charity 'half-century', June says she plans to continue her service for Barnardo's in the future.



Lights, camera, action - Devon getting ready for the next take on the Heinz Beanz commercial shoot.

## Jorden and Jessica pick winning name

PUPILS at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School got their thinking caps on when they were challenged by house builder Taylor Wimpey to come up with a name for its new development in Barry.

The company chose

## Mayor's coffee

THE Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Coun John Clifford, is holding a charity coffee morning at St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street, Barry, on Tuesday, October 18, 10.30am-12 noon.

All proceeds will go to the charity, Myeloma UK.

Jorden Dent and Jessica Cottle's suggestion of Golwg y Coed won the winner, as they felt it most reflected the development and history of the area.

Sara Taylor, regional sales and marketing director for Taylor Wimpey South Wales, said: "We were impressed with the standard of suggestions received and had a tough time picking just one winner."

"Both Jessica and Jorden's suggestion of Golwg y Coed won because it illustrates the beautiful woodland surrounding the development, which is on Pendocote Lane in Barry."

"We hope that for years to come when any of the students involved from Bryn Hafren school go by Golwg y Coed, they'll be proud to have been part of its naming."

Jessica and Jorden received a £30 W H Smith voucher each as their prize.

munity on behalf of the charity."

For more information about Cancer Research UK and the local committee in Penarth, you can obtain details from Linda Strange on 07831 448 335 or email linda.strange@cancer.org.uk.

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BARRY ISLAND  
UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

**CABARET NIGHTS**  
Friday 21st October  
**ELVIS TRIBUTE**  
UK's Number 1 Elvis Tribute Act  
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Friday 4th November  
**MOTOWN & SOUL NIGHT**  
Tribute act playing Supremes, Commitments & songs from the era!  
£10 a ticket includes Fish or Chicken & Chips  
Vegetarian option available - Booking Essential

Friday 18th November  
**Soul/Motown/Reggae Party Nite**  
with live band from Birmingham - NATURAL BLU

Friday 2nd December  
**RICHY SAMPSON'S DRIFTERS**  
"Saturday Nite at the Movies", "Up on the Roof",  
"Under the Boardwalk", "You're more than a number"

Friday 16th December  
Double Bill - Come and have the time of your life...  
**DIRTY DANCING**  
Join Danny and Sandy in  
**ULTIMATE GREASE**  
Pink Ladies & T-Bird Parties Welcome

Friday 23rd December  
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**BOYZLIFE** (Westlife and Boyzone)  
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# FOLLOW THE (VALE) LEADER £28M - THAT IS THE VALUE OF VOLUNTEERS



by Coun  
**GORDON  
KEMP**  
Leader of  
the Vale  
Council



The event at Art Central  
recognised the vital work  
of the voluntary sector.

**IT IS an amazing figure – £28,218,456 – the value of voluntary work in the Vale of Glamorgan.**

The figure is up from £25,653,586 last year and has been steadily increasing since it was first calculated by the Vale Volunteer Bureau (VVB) in 2000, when it was £8,207,136.

The VVB calculated the figure using the average number of hours worked by volunteers with the 260 voluntary organisations registered by the bureau. This means that the true economic value is even higher, as the calculation can only take into account formal volunteering.

Alison Steere, director of the VVB, tells me that the growth in value is due to an increase in the number of volunteers the bureau has been able to recruit, especially through its outreach work and

young people's service.

That £28m-plus is only part of the story, as it refers to the economic value of volunteering in our county. Research shows that not only does volunteering benefit those that it helps and society as a whole – it also has benefits for the volunteers themselves.

There are clear links between volunteering and good health for volunteers. Research findings show that volunteering can increase volunteers' longevity, improve their mental health, keep them fitter and help them cope better with bouts of illness when they do occur.

If these health benefits weren't reason enough to volunteer, research has found that volunteering can also increase confidence and self esteem and improve mental health.

The Vale Council has recently awarded

a total of £750,000 to 225 voluntary organisations in the county. In recognition of the vital work volunteers carry out every day an event was held at Art Central. A number of organisations were present, including the local branches of the Royal British Legion and the Royal Air Forces Association, Penarth Horticultural Society and the Barry Island Community Association.

It was a pleasure to meet their representatives and hear about their sterling work.

To find out more about volunteering in the Vale, visit the council's website [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) or contact the Vale Volunteer Bureau on 01446 421782 or at [www.vvb.org.uk](http://www.vvb.org.uk).

The VVB works to match volunteers with more than 800 volunteer opportunities available within not-for-profit organisations across the Vale.

## Playgroup's donation to children's hospital



ABOVE: KiddieWinkles' gift to the Children's Hospital for Wales.

**RECENTLY, some of the KiddieWinkles' playgroup team popped into the New Children's Hospital For Wales, Heath Park, to donate a fabulous cheque of £374.10.**

The children of KiddieWinkles playgroup raised the money by com-

pleting a sponsored 'Mini Olympics', enjoyed taking part and raising the funds for sick children in Wales.

Jasmine Aherne of the Noah's Ark Appeal presented a Noah The Bear to KiddieWinkles as a thank you. Noah will take pride of place in the playgroup and the children are sure to love his company.

## Nine arrests thanks to CCTV

**NINE arrests were made thanks to CCTV coverage in the Vale in the week ending October 9.**

Information from the CCTV team led to one person being issued with a fixed penalty notice and operators contacted the police 46 times.

On October 3, a person was arrested on suspicion of theft on Holton Road, Barry, and another was arrested in connection with criminal dam-

age on Main Street in the town. On October 4, one arrest was made for an alleged assault on Windsor Road in Penarth.

On October 5, one individual who had been recalled to prison was arrested on Holton Road in Barry. The following day another person was arrested on the same road in connection with disturbing public order, and one was arrested on suspicion of assault on Main Street.

Three further arrests took place in Barry on October 9: one for an alleged assault on another for disturbing public order on Holton Road, and a third for an individual who was arrested for allegedly driving under the influence of excess alcohol on Plymouth Road.

The fixed penalty notice was issued on Boverton Road in Llantwit Major on 4 October for criminal damage.

## WINTER WARMERS

keeping safe this winter

- 17 October - Glamorgan Room, Memorial Hall, Barry
  - 18 October - Glamorgan Room, Memorial Hall, Barry
  - 19 October - Penarth Conservative Club
  - 25 October - Leisure Centre, Cowbridge
  - 26 October - Old School Hall, Wine Street, Llantwit Major
  - 27 October - Old School, South Road, Sully
- All events run from 10am to 4pm

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[www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

## Courgette that became a duck!



GEM reader Eleanor Watkins was inspired when she saw a vegetable! "We were picking our courgettes and this one appeared. It looked like a duck, so I got yellow paint from a friend and added the beak. I think the result was amazing."

## PACT MEETINGS

### BARRY

**COURT PACT** meets at 7.30pm on Thursday, October 20 at Ilminster Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry.

**BUTTRILLS PACT** meets at 6.30pm on Monday, October 24 in The Phillip John Community Room, Barry Library.

**DYFAN PACT** surgery meets at 10am to 12 noon on Thursday, October 27 at Colcot Community Centre, Keats Way, Barry.

### VALE

**COWBRIDGE PACT** meets on Monday, October 17 at The Fire Station, Druids Green at 7pm.

### BONVILSTON

coffee and chat meeting at the Red Lion public house on Tuesday, October 18 at 11am.

**GRAIG PENLLYN** coffee and chat meeting at the Barley Mow on Wednesday, October 19 at 11am.

**LLANDOW PACT** will meet on Wednesday, October 19 at Ewenny Village Hall at 7pm.

### PENARTH

**CORNERSWELL PACT** meets in Penarth Leisure Centre tonight, Thursday, October 13 at 7pm.

**ST AUGUSTINE'S PACT** in the Windsor Public House on Thursday, October 20 at 7pm.

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Come and join us at the BSC, Barry Waterfront  
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from 9.30am to 12.30 noon  
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## PLUS SCHOOLS WITH SURPLUS PLACES COULD BE AT RISK

# Council plans to claw back schools' unspent cash to balance books

**SCHOOLS in the Vale could feel the pinch over the next three years at least, as the Vale Council tries to make savings.**

The situation was laid bare by the council's director of learning and development, Bryan Jeffreys, in a report to the scrutiny committee for lifelong learning.

In his report, he said that to balance the budget over the three financial years 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 the council as a whole was required to find £12.617 million savings.

Of this amount, schools have been required to find savings, and Mr Jeffreys says that this has equated to a cut in real terms for 2011/12 necessitating a saving of £2.351 million.

## 'SCHOOLS ARE HOLDING TOO MUCH CASH'

It is hoped to free up more than £1 million by targeting local schools who have been keeping unspent cash and using it to build up financial reserves.

At a meeting of the scrutiny committee for lifelong learning, it was revealed that the total reserves held by Vale schools had jumped by more than £1 million last year.

The report said that the total balances for all schools at March 31, 2011, was £3,952,865, adding that the balance had increased by £1,071,060 from the previous year, an increase of 37 per cent.

The report noted that two schools ended the year in deficit totalling £22,997, one in the primary sector and one in the secondary sector. There were 39 schools with balances in excess of the recommended five per cent of their budget. The total in excess of that five per cent limit was £1,393,065.

In more detail, the report said that there were two nurseries and 25 primary schools with balances in

## REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

excess of £50,000, and that the value of the balances in excess of £50,000 was £19,889 and £761,808 respectively. These figures indicate that the 25 primary schools are holding an average of £80,000 in reserves.

In addition, there were three secondary and one special school with balances in excess of £100,000; the value of the balances in excess of £100,000 was £321,101 and £121,599 respectively.

The report notes that, over the last five years, the total of these balances has risen every year.

It adds that the "clawback option" will only be used if schools fail to use their surplus balance or fail to adhere to any direction from the authority to spend.

## 'BUDGET PRESSURES COULD LEAD TO SCHOOL CLOSURES'

The report also says that the number of schools with too many surplus places could force the council to consider some closures.

The Vale of Glamorgan has 21,892 pupils aged three to 19. Of these, 11,815 are in primary schools, 9,823 in secondary schools

and 254 in special schools.

The primary school population is projected to increase over the next 15-year period, whereas the secondary population is set to decline over the next six-year period but then increase from 2017 onwards.

The report says that the current overall surplus capacity in the Vale currently stands at 15.69 per cent in the primary sector and 6.31 per cent in the secondary sector.

However, the secondary population surplus capacity is expected to increase to around 12 per cent over the next five years resulting from a reduc-

tion in numbers of primary age pupils moving into the secondary sector.

There are, of course, variations of over and under subscription at individual schools, and the report says that there is surplus capacity predominantly in the Barry and Llantwit Major areas – at both primary and secondary level.

The Vale Council's policy is to retain no more than 10 per cent surplus places overall, and to review schools in excess of 15 per cent – and particularly those schools with 25 per cent or more surplus places.

The report goes on to say that there are currently six primary schools with in excess of 25 per cent surplus capacity that looks set to increase over the next five years.

## 'Give youngsters sporting boost during Olympics' suggests Vale councillor

**A BARRY Labour councillor used a Vale Council meeting to push for a temporary scheme which would make local young people eligible for 'a reduced fees scheme' for all sporting facilities during the period of next year's London Olympics.**

Coun Rob Curtis, a candidate in this week's local democracy 'Youth Champion' competition taking place in all the Vale's secondary schools, explained: "The 2012 London Olympics will be a unique opportunity to encourage young people in the Vale to get involved in sport and keep fit.

"I believe that even in these finan-

cially tough times money spent encouraging young people to experience new and exciting sports which will keep them fit and healthy, and have fun while doing it, is money well spent.

"I am glad that the cabinet member for leisure and tourism agreed that the Vale Council will consider setting up such a scheme during next year's London Olympics."

He added: "It would be a wonderful opportunity for all young people in Barry and the rest of the Vale."

Coun Curtis hopes that if the idea is adopted, it will apply to all young people under the age of 18.

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## A stain on the countryside... Menace of flytipping in the lanes of the Vale

THESE pictures highlight the blight of flytipping in lanes in the Vale.

The shocking images were captured by GEM reader Greg Wilcox.

He explained: "Here at The Drope we have been plagued by fly-tipping, joy riding and the burning out of motor vehicles for as long as I can remember.

"The main area of concern is 'Dan's Lane', a single track lane which runs from The Downs on the Tumble Hill, A48, down to The Drope, St. George's.

"In the last month or so I've seen a huge amount of tipping in the lane and, almost on a weekly basis, I have witnessed almost the entire length of the lane strewn with worn tyres, the plastic outer covering of railway cable, boxes of unwanted Christmas trimmings, garden waste – and another burned out car.

"Often, the 'tippers' – I'd prefer to call them

scum – don't even bother to dump their rubbish at the sides or gateways in the lane.

"They just dump it in the middle of the lane, which means it is then blocked to traffic, which then has to reverse up or down a very tricky steep and narrow lane.

"It's been discussed at local council meetings and it has been suggested that the lane should be gated off, but in my view they would continue to dump elsewhere in the area or dump it at the entrance to the lane itself."

As a council tax payer, Mr Wilcox says he is infuriated at the cost to the Vale Council who through no fault of its own is landed with the cost of the on-going tidy-up.

Colin Smith, the works manager at the Vale Council, said: "The council's enforcement team is actively investigating flytipped material recently deposited, illegally, in Dan's Lane, near

St George's, and is analysing evidence obtained from the waste.

"Potential offenders are warned about coming to the Vale and reminded that, should suspected offenders be convicted of a flytipping offence, they could be liable for a fine of up to £50,000 or up to two years imprisonment.

"In addition to issuing fines, offenders should note that the



Vale Council staff are having to devote time and resources to tidying up after flytippers.



ABOVE: More flytipped rubbish – one GEM reader says it has become an epidemic in the lanes near where he lives.

Vale's proactive enforcement team is also considering installing surveillance cameras in this area to prevent further illegal activity."

Of course, it is difficult for the authorities to know where the flytippers are coming from – they could be from outside the Vale – but one thing is undeniable, their activities are a stain on the local countryside.

## Budget plans support growth and jobs

LAST week I presented a draft budget to the Assembly for 2012-13 setting out the Welsh Government's spending plans for the next three years.

Despite the tough financial climate, we have carefully chosen to support the priorities that matter to the people of Wales – jobs and growth, education, health and stronger communities.

We will allocate more than £129m over the next three years to support our programme of government including:

- Funding for a £75m scheme to support young people (16 to 24-year-olds) and businesses, with training and job opportunities – the new Jobs Growth Wales scheme;

- Increased spending for schools, with an extra £27 million in 2014-15 building on increased allocations over the next two years;
- Additional funding to appoint 500 new Police Community Support Officers; and

- £55m over three years to double the number of children benefiting from the Flying Start Programme.

Over the next three years we are also

increasing our funding for the NHS in Wales by £288m.

I told the Assembly that we were not starting from scratch with this Budget. It is the second year of the UK government's Spending Review and the tough budget we put before the Assembly was passed in February 2011 providing a firm basis for us to plan for the next three years, taking on board our commitments above. But we are in a much tougher place economically and financially than we were even in February and this has steered us towards the emphasis on growth, jobs and skills for our young people.

In 2008, when we faced the impact of the recession, we developed pioneering schemes like ProAct and ReAct which kept more people in work in Wales than in past recessions and we have helped thousands of people retain their jobs or to return to work quickly as well as helping employers with recruitment and training subsidies.

I said that we must tackle the scourge of youth unemployment for the health of our economy and society, and do everything we can to give young people the right opportunities, to avoid another 'lost generation'.

Professor Christopher Pissarides, the newest Nobel Prize-winning economist from the London School of Economics, said last weekend that it is vital we get people back to work as soon as possible and government subsidies should focus on helping companies bring people back to work and encourage people to look for employment. That is what we are doing and have been doing with the new Jobs Growth Wales scheme, ProAct, ReAct, Skills for Growth, Pathways to Apprenticeships and Adapt for those losing jobs in the public sector.

The budget includes a range of measures to support employment and to help Welsh businesses compete and grow. We are developing a

### ASSEMBLY NOTES



by Vale AM JANE HUTT  
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

National Infrastructure Plan and take every opportunity to boost investment in capital projects in Wales, which will help the construction industry as well as modernise our infrastructure. This includes new ways of raising funds for investment with local authorities (who already have borrowing powers) and looking at new models such as the Welsh Housing Partnership, which is partly funded by the Principality Building Society alongside the Welsh Government, to provide more affordable housing in Wales. This was the subject of a statement made by the Housing Minister, Huw Lewis AM, on Tuesday this week.

We will also continue to improve procurement across the Welsh public sector to secure effective and good-value products and services, helping local businesses and delivering community benefits as part of the contracts.

I also made a statement this week on the progress we are making with our talks on fair funding and borrowing powers with the UK government, which will take place alongside the

The debate has now started and I look forward to the next few weeks to help us deliver what we can within our constraints, in partnership with all those who will contribute to these vital decisions for a budget for growth and jobs for Wales.

### AM's surgery

VALE of Glamorgan Assembly Member Jane Hutt will be holding a surgery on Saturday, October 15.

It will be held from 10am to 11am at St Brides Major Church Hall, CF62 0SD, and from 11.30am to 12 noon at Wick Village Hall (CF71 7QF).

No appointment necessary.

## Helen to help show that 'most hoodies are goodies'

VALE Youth Forum has welcomed a new co-ordinator, after winning a grant to fund the new role.

The forum's charity trustees welcomed new co-ordinator Helena Jones, a Vale resident with over 12 years experience in youth and community work, and with a background in charity governance and funding.

The new role has been possible thanks to a successful funding application to the Vale of Glamorgan Voluntary Action Grant Scheme 2011-2012.

The Vale Youth Forum (VYF) is a registered charity based in West House Cottage, Penarth. It aims to prove that 'most hoodies are goodies' by promoting all the fantastic things our teenagers are doing to make our community nice place to live.

The VYF works with over 30 young people from across the Vale of Glamorgan, providing chances to develop new skills, experience and knowledge to enable young people to become active citizens.

The VYF also encourages young people to take part in democracy by supporting the children's parliament 'Funky Dragon'.

VYF members are elected by their youth group to represent their group and local issues at the forum.

Helena will be recruiting new VYF members from across the Vale of Glamorgan.

If you know of a youth group who would like to know more about how to elect members to be represented on the VYF then call Helena on 029 20701254 or e-mail the VYF on vale.youthforum@hotmail.co.uk.



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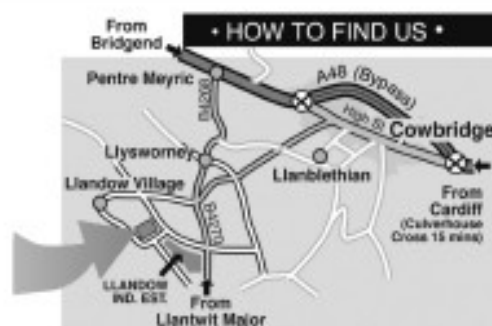
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## Mayor visits children's centre



THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor, Coun John Clifford, recently paid a visit to the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre in Llantwit Major and met the staff and service users.

The centre is part of the charity Action for Children and provides play and educational facilities for families and young children.

The mayor and staff at the centre are planning a Christmas fayre for December 9.

The mayor at the Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre.

## 'New lottery is a threat to Ty Hafan' CHARITY'S CLAIM

TY HAFAN, the family hospice for young people, is encouraging people in south Wales to turn their backs on the new 'Health Lottery', warning that it could deprive local children and young people with life-limiting illnesses of vital care services.

The popular local children's charity fears that people might choose to play the new lottery, and that local charities such as Ty Hafan could suffer.

David Griffiths, the lottery manager for Ty Hafan, said: "Our weekly hospice lottery is an essential source of income, and last year it contributed 40 per cent

of the money we need to provide our free specialist care services for local families.

"We're extremely concerned, therefore, that the new Health Lottery could divert significant amounts of money away from local hospice care which is the last thing we need in this already difficult economic climate."

"Playing the Health Lottery might sound like a good idea for those who wish to support good causes, but the fact is it will only donate 20p to charity for every £1 spent on tickets – the absolute minimum amount required by law."

"Also, because it's a national initiative, players can never be sure exactly who they will be supporting with the money they give to the

Health Lottery."

He insisted that far more of the ticket price reaches its target in Ty Hafan's case.

He said: "For every £1 received by Ty Hafan Lottery, 55p goes directly towards hospice care in the local area, so players can rest assured that their money is being well spent in their own community."

"With government providing only 15 per cent of our funding, we depend upon our lottery to keep going."

"It's for this reason that we're urging people who care about their local hospice to say 'No' to the Health Lottery."

Camelot, which runs the National Lottery, gives 40 per cent of total sales (28 per cent to good causes and 12 per cent in lottery duty to the Government).

Ty Hafan's 'No to the Health Lottery' campaign is being supported by Help the Hospices, the national charity for hospice care.

David Praill, chief executive of Help the Hospices, said: "In these already challenging times, we are very concerned that this new lottery could have a serious impact on the funds generated by hospice lotteries that take place every week across the UK."

"Hospices are local charities rooted in the communities they serve, and although hospice care is free for seriously ill people and their families, it is not free to provide, and collectively hospices have to raise more than £500 million every year."

"Since the early 1990s, hospice lotteries have been an important source of income for hospices across the UK and together raise nearly £50 million each year, with more than half of the money raised contributing directly to local hospice care for people with terminal and life-limiting illnesses."

The Health Lottery is owned by Richard Desmond, the owner of the *Daily Express* newspaper, who also owns Channel 5.

The first draw took place on Saturday, October 8, on ITV1 and Channel 5 hosted by Melinda Messenger, and ticket-holders had the chance to win a top prize of up to £100,000 for matching five numbers between 1 and 50.

Around 40,000 outlets across Great Britain are selling tickets, from independent store owners through to national retailers including WH Smith, Sainsburys, Morrisons, Tesco and Asda.

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## Learning about Ivor Novello

RHOOSE WI met on October 6 at the village hall, Stewart Road.

Vice-president Jill Jones welcomed members and said how pleasing it was to see so many visitors and potential new members.

After *Jerusalem* was sung and safety instructions and apologies for absence were made, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and the financial and welfare reports given.

The members then settled down to listen to the speaker for the evening, Mr Alan Thorne, who gave a talk on the life and times of Ivor Novello. This proved to be very enjoyable, giving an insight into how prolific and multi-talented this famous Cardiff-born actor/composer/producer was.

Afterwards, members

were reminded that the AGM will take place on November 3, and that nominations for the new committee should be made. The raffle was won by one of the visitors, Ms Ella Waddingham, and the winner of the October competition was Mrs Margaret Lloyd. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Forthcoming events:

- Friday, October 14: Lunch Club at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, 12.30pm for 1pm (members may also wish to visit the Glamorgan Quilters' exhibition prior to lunch).

- Friday, October 21: skittles at the Rhose Social Club starting at 2pm, followed by tea and cake at coffee time.

- Thursday, November 3: Rhose WI AGM, 7.30pm, the village hall, Stewart Road, Rhose. The WI Advisor will be Ms Sheena Sargeant.

## AM's support for Waverley

VALE resident AM, Andrew RT Davies, has written to Scottish Conservative MSPs to raise awareness of growing support in the Vale for the campaign to keep the *Waverley* afloat.

He also urged other Conservative MSPs to support the motion being tabled in the Scottish Parliament.

Andrew said: "I have been contacted by many constituents in recent days, all anxious to do anything possible to preserve what is the only sea-faring paddle steamer in the world.

"As I understand it, the primary issue is a shortfall in finances, but it is certainly very heartening to see the support that is being generated here in south Wales, and in particular Penarth."

"I have contacted colleagues in Scotland urging them to support the motion and would urge all concerned locals to do the same, to ensure that they are aware of the strong feelings of support for the vessel."

Stormy weather forced the *Waverley* to cut its summer season of sailings short by almost two weeks. Customers were offered refunds.

## Morgan family lands Great Taste award for lamb

**F**ARMING family C & G Morgan and Son from Gellifeddgaer Farm, Blackmill, Bridgend, are celebrating after winning a prestigious 2011 Great Taste Award.

The company was presented with a coveted (two-star) Gold Great Taste Award for its own farm-reared rack of lamb.

The Morgan family are ninth generation family farmers who pride themselves on rearing quality produce on their Welsh hill farm, which is located on the outskirts of Bridgend.

Over the last 12 years they have diversified into direct sales, selling from their farm gate as

well as at Bridgend and Caerphilly farmers' markets.

It has proved to be a most successful venture for the family, culminating in being recognised for the hard work and effort involved in producing a quality product.

Gill Morgan, who was thrilled to win another prestigious award, said: "We are delighted with the success once again."

"It is very important to us to maintain a quality status, to be successful with our lamb this year, in addition to winning in previous years with our beef, is very worthwhile. Our son is in charge of the stock and it is his expertise that we rely on to produce meat with exceptional taste."

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*The GEM will be keeping readers updated on all the news in the run-up to next year's Festival.*

## Mae'r GEM yn falch o fod yn un o bartneriaid swyddogol Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg, 2012

### The GEM is proud to be an official partner of The Vale of Glamorgan 2012 Eisteddfod

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agosáu. Felly os ydych chi'n bwriadu cystadlu ar gyfer y Fedal Ryddiaith neu Wobr Goffa Daniel Owen dyma'ch cyfle olaf i fwrw golwg dros y gwaith, rhaid i bopeth gyrraedd Swyddfa'r Trefnydd erbyn 1 Rhagfyr eleni. Ceir manylion ar sut i gystadlu a rhestr lawn o'r cystadlaethau ar wefan yr Eisteddfod - [www.eisteddfod.org.uk](http://www.eisteddfod.org.uk)

- yna cliciwch 2012 ac yna 'dyddiadau allweddol'. Mae gan Fro Morgannwg hanes diddorol gyda'r Eisteddfod. Mae'r Wyl wedi ymweld â'r ardal ar ddaud achlysur yn y gorffennol gyda thref y Barri yn gartref i'r Eisteddfod yn 1920 ac yn 1968. Mae hanes diddorol i'r ddaud dro. Yn 1920, ganwyd y Babel Llen, ac yn

1968, gwelwyd Theatr y Maes am y tro cyntaf. Erbyn hyn wrth gwrs mae'r ddaud bafiliwn ymhlith prif atyniadau unrhyw Eisteddfod.

Cynhaliwyd Eisteddfod 1920 ym Mharc Romilly yn y Barri a chodwyd pafiliwn enfawr ar gyfer yr achlysur. Ar y pryd hwn oedd y pafiliwn mwyaf a godwyd ar gyfer unrhyw Eisteddfod, gyda lle i 12,000 i eistedd a lle i 3,000 arall i sefyll.

Enillydd y goron oedd James Evans o Ynyshir yn y Rhondda. Cafwyd tipyn o gynwrf o ddeall ei fod yn gweithio fel glöwr. Croesawyd y bardd i'r llwyfan gan yr Archdderwydd a cymaint oedd y swm yn y pafiliwn fel y bu'n rhaid iddo gyfarch y dorf gan ddefnyddio 'megaffon'.

Codwyd hwyly y dorf yn fwy byth wrth ddarganfydd bod y goron yn rhy fach i ben y bardd a bu iddi lithro o'i ben!

Ni fu teilyngdod yn y Gadair fodd bynnag gyda'r beirniaid yn dyfarnu nad oedd yr un o'r deg ymgeisydd wedi cyrraedd y safon.

Oes gennych chi luniau neu atgofion o Eisteddfodau 1920 neu 1968? Os felly cysylltwch â ni. Anfonwch e bost at [gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk](mailto:gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk) er mwyn sicrhau bod eich stori chi yn

dod yn rhan o hanes yr Eisteddfod.

**THE National Eisteddfod, which visits the Vale of Glamorgan next year, is one of the world's greatest cultural festivals, which will attract people of all ages to the region at the beginning of August.**

But the Eisteddfod is far more than a week-long summer event. The festival itself is the culmination of two years' work, with a strong team of local volunteers promoting and fundraising for the festival over the whole period.

The competitions have been decided - the closing date for the first few literary competitions is December 1, so if you're planning on entering a novel or prose, it's time to give it the final once over and send it to the Eisteddfod Office. If you're thinking of competing on stage or in some of the other literary competitions, you've got more time, and details of all the closing dates and the list of competitions are available on the 2012 Eisteddfod website - [www.eisteddfod.org.uk](http://www.eisteddfod.org.uk) - then click on 2012

and 'key dates'.

The Vale of Glamorgan has an interesting association with the Eisteddfod and the festival has visited the Vale on two previous occasions with Barry being the host town in 1920 and again in 1968.

Both visits had notable firsts with the first ever Literature Pavilion on the Maes (festival site) appearing at the 1920 Barry Eisteddfod and a Theatre pavilion appearing for the first time at the 1968 Eisteddfod. Both the Theatre and Literature Pavilions remain to this day as two of the most popular attractions on the Eisteddfod site.

The 1920 Eisteddfod was held in Romilly Park and a huge pavilion was erected for the event - the structure had a seating capacity of 12,000 with room for a further 3,000 standing.

The Crown was won by James Evans from Ynyshir in the Rhondda who received a rapturous reception by the crowd on announcement of the fact that he was a working coal miner.

The bard was greeted on the stage by the Archdderwydd who quickly realised that the large crowd would find it hard to hear him, so a megaphone was found



### A wyddoch Chi? Did you Know?

1. Defnyddir tua chwe millir o wifrau trydan ar Faes yr Eisteddfod bob blwyddyn.

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2. Defnyddir tua 330,000 galwyn o ddwr yn yr Eisteddfod bob blwyddyn.

Every year at the Eisteddfod, 330 gallons of water is used.

3. Defnyddir tua phum millir o bapur ty bach yn ystod yr Eisteddfod bob blwyddyn.

Five miles of toilet roll is used on the site each year.

In order for the Archdderwydd to make himself heard. The mood in the pavilion was further lifted by the discovery that the crown was too small and slipped from the bard's head!

The chair, however, remained empty, with adjudicators announcing that none of the 10 entries were worthy of the prize.

Do you have any memories or photos of the 1920 or 1968 Eisteddfod? If so, get in touch with the office. Send an e mail to [gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk](mailto:gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk) and make sure that your story is part of our history.



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## Firms win business awards

RECENTLY, the annual South Wales Business Awards were held in the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge.

The awards have been developed and launched by WS Marketing and are sponsored by Lloyds TSB Commercial Centre For Enterprise - University of Glamorgan, Careers Wales, the Vale Council and the Centre of Excellence in Mobile Applications and Services (CEMAS) - University of Glamorgan

The winners were:

● Young Entrepreneur of the Year - Rachael Flanagan - Mrs Bucket Cleaning Services.

● New Start-up of the Year - MHM Plant Ltd.

● Retail Business of the Year - The Wales Golf Holiday Company.

● Business Services Business of the Year - Wolfestone Translation.

● Female Entrepreneur of the Year - Donna Turner-Kot-n-ergy Group Ltd in Bridgend.

● Social Enterprise of the Year - Cycle Training Wales.

● Technological & Innovative Business of the Year - SmileyTalk of Talbot Green.

● Contribution to South Wales Business 2011 - William McNamara - Bluestone National Park.

● South Wales Business of the Year 2011 - Cycle Training Wales.

The evening was also an opportunity for the businesses in attendance to show their generosity, and £740 was raised on the evening for the nominated charity Tenovus.



**Martin Harris of Smiley Talk (Talbot Green) receives his award from Khalid Al-Begain, the director of the Centre of Excellence for Mobile Applications and Services (CEMAS) at the University of Glamorgan.**



**Tricia Murray and John Bevan accepting an award on behalf of Donna Turner-Kot (Bridgend). It was presented by Lyn Daunt of the University of Glamorgan**



**Ian Harvey (Commercial relationship manager) Lloyds TSB, Jon Howes (workshop coordinator) Cycle Training Wales, Professor Gary Packham (head of the Glamorgan Business School and head of research, faculty of business and society).**



## VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

## REVITALISING HIGH STREET SHOPPING

Over the last few weeks I have met chambers of trade and business across the Vale to find out what issues they face on their High Streets.

This is particularly relevant considering pressure from national chains, the internet and out of town shopping. At the beginning of the summer, the government launched a High Street review, led by Mary Portas, to identify what government, local authorities and businesses can do to promote the development of more prosperous and diverse high streets.

The review will also explore new business models for High Streets relevant to the modern consumer.

As part of the evidence-gathering exercise, I was keen to find out from our local traders in Llantwit Major, Cowbridge and our largest town, Barry, what they thought legislation, businesses and the local public sector could do to help create more diverse, successful and sustainable High Streets.

It was great to meet such a diverse range of business owners from the Vale who are all clearly passionate about their businesses and the communities they are a part of.

From fashion retailers to a start-up children's play centre, all are keen to continue trading on their High Streets, despite tough trading conditions in recent times.

As I met members from the various chambers of trade, it became apparent that retailers across each of our towns in the Vale do share some common



**Vale MP  
Alun Cairns**  
reports to GEM readers

challenges.

Parking for shoppers and staff is clearly a key concern for many businesses. Car parking provision and management is a major influence on not only destination choice for shoppers, but also the pattern of development within an area.

I will be taking up the matter with the local authority to see how best we can tackle these challenges.

Signage is another obvious issue that should be addressed. Key to stimulating visitors and shoppers is the lack of signage from the main trunk routes of the M4 and from the A48 to our main towns.

I intend to explore, with the Welsh Government and the local authority, the opportunities for improving signage and raising the visibility of routes

to our wonderful shopping hubs.

It is also clear that promotion and communication between towns and villages can also play a part in growing tourism across the Vale.

Anyone visiting Barry, possibly as a result of Gavin and Stacey promotions, needs to hear about Llantwit Major, and the ease of access to the town by train needs to be known to visitors.

Similarly, visitors to the historical churches in Llantwit or other rural sites should also be pointed in the direction of Cowbridge.

Business rates are also a pressure and I hope there will be recommendations to support local traders on our high streets. We in Wales were hit by the re-evaluation at the peak of the market, which didn't happen in the same way in England.

I have made my views known to the Welsh Government on this.

I'm keen to see healthy High Streets across the Vale – that continue to draw in not only local residents but those who choose to visit us from further afield, as destination shoppers and tourists.

I will feed back the suggestions from the Vale's chambers of trade to make sure that the voice of the retailers within our rural and urban towns in the Vale are taken into account.

The Mary Portas Review is due to be published later this year.

It's vital that we promote growth, create jobs and make sure our independent retailers thrive and continue to play such a pivotal role in our communities.

## WALKERS MUST TAKE CARE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

**I** WRITE this letter on Sunday evening after rounding up livestock that had escaped after walkers had failed to secure a gate.

Two walkers had tried to use the footpath through our fields near Welsh St Donats at approximately 12.30pm but had taken the incorrect route.

Although this in itself was not an

issue, leaving a gate undone was unforgivable.

It was pure luck that we noticed the stock were loose; their exit could easily have led them on to the A48 with potentially disastrous consequences.

This incident highlights the need for walkers to (a) adhere to designated footpaths and (b) be especially vigilant when closing gates.

Jane Groves, Welsh St Donats

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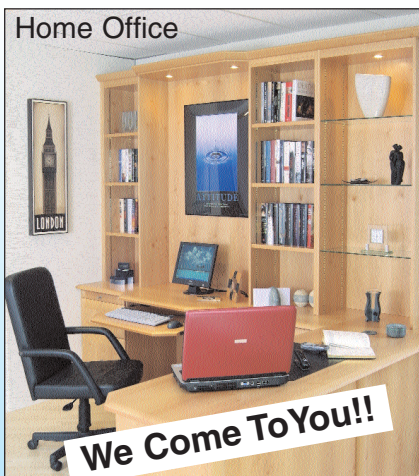
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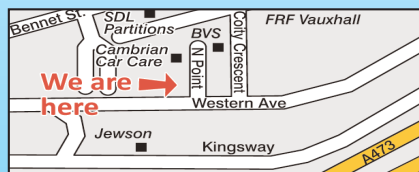
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## ADVERTISING FEATURE

# Fresh round of funding for Vale farming families

**A** NEW initiative, Pride in our Farming Families, has been set up to provide a major boost to farming families in the rural Vale.

The scheme is offering grants of up to £40,000, to help farmers develop new aspects of their business by diversifying into non-agricultural activities.

The scheme is one of six new funding programmes run by Creative Rural Communities (CRC), the Vale's rural regeneration initiative. By working with local farming families to develop new and innovative ways to boost income, Creative Rural Communities hopes to help sustain the farming economy in the area.

Nia Hollins, senior rural regeneration

officer at CRC, said: "Pride in our Farming Families has been established to encourage local farmers to find long-term solutions that will allow them to continue farming through subsidising the farm's income in alternative ways.

"We're looking for new ideas which will add to the visitor appeal of the Vale and help generate or safeguard jobs.

"The Vale is home to a significant number of four and five star accommodation providers, so we would like to see applications for more alternative offers such as 'glamping', eco-friendly campsites and bunk houses to broaden its appeal to groups and families.

"Other business ventures could be to open up a farm shop, turn the farm into a hands-on visitor experience or transform spare land into an outdoor activity centre. We are open to ideas."

Norman Jenkins, a local farmer and chair of CRC, said: "This is an exciting project which is already generating a great deal of interest among the farming community in the Vale.

"We are delighted to be able to offer this funding and look forward to seeing some very exciting projects come to fruition through the Pride in our Farming Families programme."

Creative Rural Communities is a regeneration and economic development initiative led by the Vale Council in partnership with various public, private and voluntary sector organisations.

The project is funded through the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013 by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

As well as farming, there are funding programmes available for villages, heritage, basic services, tourism and community grown food, which

will strengthen communities and businesses in the rural Vale.

Applicants are invited to apply if they wish to introduce a new, non-agricultural activity to their farm.

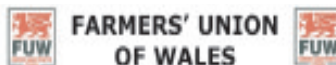
Applicants must demonstrate that it will boost the income to the farm as well as generating or sustaining jobs.

The funding is available until December 2013.

For further information contact: Nia Hollins on 01446 775388 or email [nhollins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:nhollins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

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## Kenson Bridge is blocked by a transporter!



Stuck on Kenson Bridge.

**ON October 8, a transporter vehicle blocked Kenson Bridge near Penmark.**

GEM reader Gavin Davies said: "At about 8.30am on Thursday, the transporter turned off the main road by the airport towards Penmark, despite the sign saying the lane is unsuitable for heavy vehicles.

"At the entrance to the village is a new sign warning of a weak bridge ahead. The driver continued through the village, collecting a size-

able tree which travelled for quite a long way on top of the new cars before it fell off!

"He tried to cross the old curved stone bridge which crosses the Kenson River between Penmark and Llanfarnham, but never made it. The trailer stuck on the curve of the bridge, totally blocking the road until about 2pm."

Mr Davies added: "Incidentally, the Vale of Glamorgan Council did an excellent job getting workmen to repair a damaged sign within an hour."



The tree after its 'ride'!

## Helping those who are living below the poverty line



**THE** above photograph shows me with much-needed warm clothing which has been donated and will be sent to Tanzania.

I have visited the remote, isolated mountain village community in the West Sambora Mountains of Tanzania on two occasions.

It is a hard-working community, living well below the recognised international poverty line of a dollar per day per person.

Warm, rainproof clothing is essential.

If people are interested in what is being achieved, further information is available at [www.villageafrica.org.uk](http://www.villageafrica.org.uk).

I plan to revisit the community in the near future for the third time.  
Roy Gee, Dinas Powys.

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You must farm a min 500 hours per year, have a CRN and CFN number and be located in the rural Vale to be eligible. \* Rural Vale of Glamorgan does not include the wards of Barry, Penarth or Llanfarnham. \*\* Grants are available up to a maximum £40k or 70% of the total project cost, whichever is the lowest.

Man'n ddiol wrth i chi ymuno â'r sefyllfa o 500 awr y flwyddyn, bod i chi ffynhonedd Cymharu a Rhif Daliad wrth i chi gael eiddwrth i chi ymuno â'r flwyddyn i'r mudiad. \* Dyw'r Vale o Glamorgan yn ddiogel i'r mudiad. \*\* Mae'r grantiau'n gael eu hysbysu'n 40,000 neu 70% o'r cost cyfanswm, sef yr isaf.





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# FRACKING IN THE VALE IS NEXT WEEK'S HOT TOPIC

ANYONE looking for information about the controversial subject of 'fracking' will have plenty of opportunity to find out more next week.

There will be meetings on Monday and Tuesday, in advance of November's Vale Council planning committee meeting, when councillors will be required to decide whether to give permission for a test drilling to take place in Llandow.

The application has been placed by the Bridgend-based company, Coastal Oil and Gas, which says it wants to gauge the commercial potential for shale gas deposits in south Wales, including the Vale.

On Monday, October 17, there will be a 'fracking marathon', as a dramatic film about the environmental effects of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) will be shown at the Civic Offices in Barry, at 3pm.

The film, *Gasland*, has spearheaded the opposition to the commercial exploitation of shale gas resources in the UK.

At the moment, two areas in the UK have been identified as possibly rich in gas – the north-west of England, around Blackpool, and south Wales, from Swansea to the Vale.

Then, in the evening at 6pm, a meeting of the economy and environment scrutiny committee will be held, with a variety of experts

by PHILIP IRWIN

present. Representatives from Welsh Water, Cardiff University, the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales, and the Environment Agency are expected to speak at the meeting.

Also, Coastal Oil and Gas has said that it will send a spokesman.

Louise Evans, who founded the campaign group The Vale Says No will also address the meeting.

The chairman of the scrutiny committee, Coun Chris Williams, said that he hoped to give members of the public a chance to speak, time permitting.

The following day (Tuesday) fracking is the only item on the agenda for a special meeting of the planning committee of Barry Town Council.

This meeting will take place in the council chamber in Gladstone Road at 7pm.

One unexpected development in the last fortnight was the publication in the magazine, *Private Eye*, of an article on the subject.

The magazine, in the main, is usually viewed as being on the side of the underdog, and against big business.

Over a period of several years when the defence Technical College (DTC) was a hot topic, *Private Eye* was a regular source of stories that embarrassed the Ministry of Defence.

In fact, a *Private Eye* story pointing out a flaw in the DTC

project on a Thursday, would be extensively distributed to media in the Vale by campaigners on the following Monday.

This time, however, an article in *Private Eye* on September 30 has come out heavily in favour of shale gas extraction.

Writing about the plans for the Blackpool area, where a company called Cuadrilla has announced a massive find of shale gas, the author throws his or her weight behind the scheme.

It points out that shale gas extraction in the US has, in a short period of time, turned the US from a net importer of gas to a net exporter – reducing energy prices in the process.

The author says: "Because abundant shale gas undermines the case for subsidising nuclear and renewable power generation, it faces a well-funded hostile lobby."

The article also includes the claim: "Lurid films of gas flames shooting out of bath taps in America have comprehensively been shown to have nothing to do with shale gas production (it is a naturally-occurring phenomenon in part of the US)."

So, in the opinion of this *Private Eye* correspondent, Coastal Oil and Gas is the underdog, with the green and nuclear lobbies lined up against them.

Perhaps someone can offer some answers next Monday!

## TOP SCORES AT FITZALAN 2011



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## Scott Wroe opens his new state of the art Hearing Centre at ... 1 STATION APPROACH, PENARTH

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*If you have found you're a little hard of hearing lately, you are not alone. According to figures from the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, there are 8,257,000 people in the UK with mild to moderate deafness, and a further 688,000 with severe or profound deafness.*



Hearing loss is often associated with age so it's no surprise that 5,891,000 of the people with mild to moderate hearing loss are in the over 60s age group - that's 50 per cent of people over 60.



Until recently hearing aid technology was fairly basic. But new technology and the introduction of digital hearing aids have transformed the range of products available. Another benefit is that because of the technology it's been possible to reduce the size of hearing aids so that they are no longer the cumbersome things that they used to be.

So if you have noticed problems with hearing - for example you might ask people to repeat things, or you can't hear people properly when you're in a noisy room - you might benefit from a hearing test.

With the opening of Penarth's first dedicated hearing centre, clients will now have access to a totally Independent practice. We offer state of the art testing, fitting and aftercare service and also full speech mapping facilities. This enables Sue and Scott Wroe to confirm if hearing aids are performing correctly using real time speech which is visible via a wall mounted display.

The centre also has a dedicated fitting room which enables clients to see and hear the benefits of the new generation of digital hearing aids that link effortlessly with television and telephones including mobiles!

As a family business for over 35 years Scott and Sue Wroe pride themselves on offering a personal service to each and every one of their clients. All their hearing aids come with a 30-day free trial enabling their customers to test them with family and friends before any financial commitment.

**And with the opening of our new centre we will be providing free hearing test and assessment throughout October and November as well as special offers including either four or five year manufacturer warranties on all hearing aids dispensed!**



*So if you are finding it a little hard to hear things nowadays why not come and find out how we can help?*

**Scott Wroe  
Hearing Centre**

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### Scott Wroe says:

*“Not many people are aware that many high street chains are tied to or owned by a particular hearing aid manufacturing company, severely curtailing the range of devices their dispensers can offer.*

*“What we do here is provide true independent advice on all the leading brands.*

*We are not owned nor have any affiliation with any particular manufacturer enabling us to recommend the best hearing aid for our client's particular needs.*

*“With the opening of our new centre we aim to not only to provide the very best products on the market but to ensure that our clients have the level of service and aftercare that I believe only a small family practice can offer.”*



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## 'Save our mobile library service' – says local councillor

A LABOUR councillor has called on the Vale Council to reverse its decision to end the area's mobile library service.

A motion at a recent council meeting calling for the service to be reinstated was lost.

Gibbonsdown councillor Rob Curtis, said: "The community I represent has the lowest car ownership of anywhere in the Vale, so removing the mobile library will take away local children's chances of developing their reading skills, and it will leave many pensioners lonely and isolated."

"Most reasonable people I have met have agreed with us that this is a cut too far."

"The Conservative-controlled Vale Council is the only council in Wales which has decided to cut its mobile library service."

### CLUB'S SALE

**BARRY Blind Club** is holding a fundraising sale at **New Jerusalem Church Hall, on Tuesday, October 18, 2pm - 4pm.**

Admission is £1. There will be free tea or coffee and biscuits; cakes and bottle stall and more.



Coun Curtis claims that removing the mobile library service will take away the opportunity for some youngsters to develop reading skills.

### 'COUNCIL GATES ARE WELCOME'

I WOULD like to respond to the article 'Council gates make area look like ghetto?' in The GEM, September 29.

Everyone is entitled to their opinions, but this is just one man's who doesn't even live anywhere near his shop, and has no idea what went on after he closed for the day.

Speak to the residents who have been troubled over the years by groups of youths causing problems, and a whole different opinion would be voiced.

Mr Blakemore

appears to be concerned about potential customers having to make a detour, but what he fails to mention is customers could still use the walkways if he would open the gates, which he refuses to do, even refusing to hold the keys.

So how concerned is he about any potential safety hazards, he mentions?

I, personally, would like to thank all persons involved in making it possible for numerous residents to enjoy a far better quality of life by installing these gates. Mrs BA Dyke, Barry.

## 'Dismay and disbelief' at failed motion

ON September 28, I was fortunate enough to be in the public gallery to witness first-hand the full meeting of the Vale Council.

Alongside me in the public gallery were many elderly Vale residents and their carers and relatives who had come to hear the fate of the day care centres, Rondel House in Barry and Gardenhurst in Penarth.

Following a motion proposed by the Labour group on the Vale Council, a discussion and vote took place.

Despite the arguments put forward by the Labour councillors, who explained that the centres were a lifeline for many elderly people in the Vale and that no-one had been able to provide the financial evidence of savings that would be made by changing the services offered by the two centres, the Tory councillors took no notice.

I believe some Conservative councillors did not even listen to the debate, and didn't know they were being asked to vote and which way they were supposed to vote!

When it came down to it, the Tory councillors would not support the motion and refused to consider returning Rondel House and Gardenhurst to their former use.

The vote was 16 for the motion and 23 votes against the motion, and my information is that those who voted against included Barry Conservative councillors Tony Hampton, Emlyn Williams, Katherine Kemp, Marguerita Wright and Janice Charles.

The mood in the public gallery was of dismay and disbelief. The decision to withdraw the day care service for these two centres does not make long term sense and is a cost cutting exercise that does not add up.

I hope the voters in Barry and Penarth will remember the way that the Tory councillors voted come the elections next May.

Coun Claire Curtis, (Barry Town councillor for Dyfan ward)

## Cadoxton Primary School is praised by inspector

AN Estyn inspector's report has praised the work of staff at Cadoxton Primary School, highlighting the pupils' positive attitudes and enthusiasm for learning.

The inspection was carried out in June and in his report, Mr Peter Mathias said the school performing well.

The main findings were:

- Standards are good.
- Pupils' skills in literacy are well developed.
- Welsh language development is good.
- Nearly all pupils have positive attitudes and are enthusiastic learners.
- That there is a very positive ethos across the whole school; and provision for pupils with additional learning needs is excellent.

The headteacher, Janet Hayward, commented:

"This is a fitting report for Cadoxton. It is well deserved by the staff, parents, governors and children who work together so well to make Cadoxton Primary School such a good school."

"The inspectors said that prospects for further improvements are good too, because solid foundations are in place. I am really excited at the prospect of leading the school forward to continuing improvement."

## Charity needs your votes

A CHILDREN'S charity needs your help to be in with the chance of winning £6,000 to help disadvantaged children and young people in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Action for Children has entered the NatWest Community Force grants initiative.

Action for Children's Vale Family Support Service project has been shortlisted for the chance to win the community grant.

The project works with children and their families who are coping with poverty, deprivation, drug and alcohol-related issues, mental

health issues and domestic abuse.

Action for Children fundraiser Nina Rice said: "This is a fantastic initiative from NatWest and we would like to thank them for giving Action for Children the opportunity to add value to our work with children, young people and their families."

"Winning this grant would make a huge difference to the lives of the young people we support in the Vale of Glamorgan, so I would like to urge everyone living in south Wales to vote for our project at <http://communityforce.natwest.com>."

Voting closes on October 23.

## Newspaper jobs threat

NEWSQUEST, the owners of a number of south Wales newspapers, is planning job cuts in editorial staff.

Media reports say that the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) has claimed that five editorial posts are to go, and offices in Chepstow and Pontypool are to close.

Newsquest, one of the largest regional publishers in the UK, owns the Newport Argus, and also the Barry and District and the Penarth Times.

Newsquest has 5,000 employees in the UK, and its parent company is the American media group Gannett, which publishes 85 daily newspapers and owns 23 TV stations in the US.

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# Inspirational Homes and Gardens

## Taking a look at the positive benefits of a smaller living space!

If you are feeling cramped at home, it's not your imagination. A new report by the Royal Institute of British Architects has revealed that new build houses are now eight per cent smaller than they were in the 1980s, when rules on living space were lifted.

However, there is space-saving furniture and storage solutions that can make the most of every inch.

It may be a small comfort to know that it's not just your growing children, possessions and pets which are making even the largest space feel claustrophobic – homes have actually shrunk!

A new report by the

by GABRIELLE FAGAN

Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), has revealed that new houses are generally smaller than they were 30 years ago.

On average, a new three-bedroom house in the UK is eight per cent smaller than the recommended minimum size.

Harry Rich, chief executive of RIBA, said: "Our new research confirms thousands of cramped houses – shameful shoebox homes – are being churned out all over the country."

Nationally, the organisation found that the missing space was equivalent to a single bedroom capable of taking a single bed, bedside table, wardrobe, desk and chair.

But instead of despairing or considering an expensive house move, it could be time to consider whether you're using your current space wisely and if its layout suits the way you want to live.

"If your home is small, or not as large as you'd like, every bit of it has to work for its keep," advised Elizabeth Willhide, whose inspiring book *Small Spaces* is packed with clever ideas.

"You may be able to discover hidden space in homes that has been

overlooked, as well as using space more effectively.

"A spare room could double as an office, a breakfast bar might improve a kitchen and a large bedroom could be divided.

"Storage can work wonders, too. Space under the stairs could provide an additional seating area, or be a utility cupboard.

"Stair treads can be transformed into drawers and a landing could be utilised for storage or a fitted desk."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21)

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# Inspirational Homes and Gardens

## Who wants to build what, and where in the Vale?

Mrs Lisa Carson – **Shangri La, Barry Road, Dinas Powys** – Provisions for dog and staff welfare facilities at Labradoodles, including new buildings and retention of 4 no. cabins to

area 3B.  
Mrs Gwyneth Lingard – **Unit 2/3 Ty Verlon Industrial Estate, Cardiff Road, Barry** – Change of use to dedicated gymnastics facility.  
Mrs Victoria Meadows –

**1 Rheidol Drive, Barry** – Proposed first floor front extension and single storey rear extension.  
Mr Alan Hughes – **Southerndown Golf Club, Ogmores by Sea** – Covered golf trolley and buggy storage area.  
Mrs L Jones – **64 Plymouth Road, Barry** – Erection of white PVCU porch to front elevation.  
Mr Matthew Cant – **17 Elm Grove Road, Dinas Powys** – Single storey extension to the side and rear of property.

Mr and Mrs Thatcher – **Copper Beech, St Donats** – Single storey detached garage with pitched roof.  
Mr and Mrs J G Thomas – **2 Lynmouth Drive, Sully** – entrance porch extension.  
Mr Chris Mingley – **49 Clive Place, Penarth** – The erection of a single storey rear extension and miscellaneous ancillary works.  
Mr and Mrs D Stoneham – **92 Millfield Drive, Cowbridge** –

Construction of two storey extension comprising of ground floor: porch, office, WC, utility and first floor – enlarge front bedroom, en-suite, new bedroom to rear.  
Mayflower Properties – **The Royal Hotel, 1 Barry Road, Barry** – Proposed use as Class A1 (shop).  
Dr Ian Harris – **Ar Yr Mynydd, Piccadilly, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – Fell pussy willow.  
Ms Laura Fudge – **Oak Cottage, Wick Road, St Brides Major** – Fell two conifer trees and reduce the canopy of an oak tree by 10 per cent.  
Mighty Oak Tree Solutions – **24 Archer Road, Penarth** – Various works to trees.  
Prof Michael McNamee – **25 Tair Onen, Cowbridge** – First floor balcony and refit windows and extend to sliding doors on first floor ensuite bedroom.  
Mr and Mrs S And G Tuck – **1 Elfed Avenue, Penarth** – New dwelling at the rear of 1 Elfed Avenue, Penarth.  
Square Foot Estate Agency – **49 Windsor Road, Penarth** – Rear ground floor extension.  
Mr Christopher Pope – **Unit 5, Heritage Business Park, Llantwit Major** – Siting of caravan and use as a taxi office.  
Mr Steve Jones – **The Stable, St Donats, Llantwit Major** – Porch and garage extension with room over and conversion of roof space to form habitable room.  
Mr Colin Anstee – **Land to rear of Willow Cottage, Treos** – Outline application for the construction of a detached dwelling.  
Mr David Lawal – **Former Oxfam Shop, Verity's Court, North Road, Cowbridge** – Change of use of coffee shop with a two-storey extension.  
Mr Richard Smith – **19 Sullivan Close, Penarth** – Single storey extension to rear of property.  
Mr Barry Melhuish – **Waterford House, 1 Ash Park, Ystradowen** – Construct small foundation and erect a masonry and glazed conservatory with a slated roof.  
Graham Bailey – **Brooklyn, Piccadilly, Llanblethian** – Extensions and alterations to dwelling, plus part conversion of garage to habitable accommodation.  
Mr Dave Edwards – **24 Maes y Ffynnon, Bonvilston** – Dormer wall on to rear of existing loft conversion at existing domestic dwelling.  
Dr Raghuram – **Kuteera, Peterston Super Ely** – Retention of previously erected cricket practice nets.  
Mr Bryn Davies – **Kristenson, Hillside Drive, Cowbridge** – Proposed ground floor kitchen extension and first floor roof/loft conversion.  
Mrs Claire Turner – 8

**Wood Street, Penarth** – Single storey rear extension and alterations.  
Mr and Mrs Rebecca Hooper – **102 Stanwell Road, Penarth** – Demolition of rear single storey garage.  
Mr John Howell – **Pont Y Werin, off Marconi Avenue, Penarth** – Construction of maintenance steps.  
Mr Hywel Jones – **71 Eastgate, Cowbridge** – Retention of new doors to rear and front following damage from burglary.  
C/o Agent – **The Paddocks, Penarth** – construction of a new single dwelling and associated works.  
Dr Subhashish Poddar – **65 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – creation of an off road parking area for one car in the front garden, to include removal of part of the front boundary wall, building of a new pillar to frame the entrance to the parking area, creating a crossover from the highway to the garden including a dropped kerb, block paving to the proposed area in the garden.  
Airparks Services Ltd – **Airparks Services, Port Road, Rhose, Barry** – double sided illuminated sign at vehicular entrance to Airparks site.  
Mr Mathew James Young – **19 Fairfield Rise, Llantwit Major** – removal of existing hardwood single glazed conservatory and replace with uPVC double glazed conservatory/utility/WC.  
Mr Anthony Kerslake – **3 Pardoe Crescent, Barry** – proposed extension to rear elevation and internal alterations to remodel dwelling.  
Lafarge Cement UK Ltd – **Aberthaw Works, East Aberthaw, Barry** – new storage silos.  
Mr Neil Stanger – **54 Cornwall Rise, Barry** – retrospective application for the erection of decking structure over existing garage, boundary fencing and pergola.  
Mr John Lindsay – **4 Tair Onen, Cowbridge** – two single storey extensions (one to west elevation and one to north elevation).  
One two storey extension to rear with loft room to be formed. Existing extension to be demolished.

Mr Paul Donovan – **6 Station Approach, Penarth** – single storey rear extension.  
Mr Paul Thomas – **Hazelwood, St Andrews Road, St Andrews Major, Dinas Powys** – Outline application with all matters reserved for a family self-care bungalow.  
Pant Y Liwydd Farm – **Heol Dafarn, St Mary Hill** – construction of a 100kW wind turbine.  
Mr John Williams – **14 Glastonbury Road, Sully, Penarth** – toilet extension.  
Mr Graham Gonthier – **3A Cornerswell Road, Penarth** – change of use from former hairdressing salon to café.  
Management Committee – **Roxburgh Garden Court, Plymouth Road, Penarth** – fell chestnut.  
Mr Johann Van Rooyen – **1 Chapel Terrace, Tyn-y-Odyn** – single storey

rear extension.  
Mr Mark Nicholls – **12 Palmerston Workshops, Palmerston Road, Barry** – change of use from B1 and B8 to B2.  
Mrs Chapman – **25 Pwll Y Min Crescent, Peterston Super Ely** – dismantle yew tree and 3m crown reduction of yew tree on boundary in front garden; 4m reduction of lower lateral branches on Turkey oak in rear garden.  
Mr Griffiths – **6 Robin Hill, Dinas Powys** – 8-9m reduction of height, shorten lateral branches and remove damaged branches to oak tree in front garden.  
Mr P and Mrs AM Sutton – **Cherry Trees, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys** – single storey extension, replacing existing extension.  
Peter Claburn – **Rowans, Llanbetherly** – two-storey rear extension.

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# Inspirational Homes and Gardens

## Size really doesn't matter in the home

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19)  
Designers, recognising the growing need for compact or multi-functional pieces, have used their talents to create excellent furniture and ingenious products for the space-starved.

"Small space living is something to celebrate. It doesn't have to mean settling for second best," insisted Wilhide.

"Focus on the benefits rather than the frustrations. Smaller spaces are easy to clean and cheaper to heat and run. With a more flexible approach to arranging your living space, you may find it suits you

after all."

Eleanor Davies, the group buyer for the Conran Shop, explained: "To make the most of small spaces, it's important to consider the place as a whole.

"Instead of thinking of conventional rooms devoted to separate functions, arrange whatever space you have in a flexible way. "Screens, room dividers and furniture which folds can be invaluable.

"Above all, focus on acquiring only what you will use, love or need. That way your home will be functional as well as beautiful."

## Top decorating tips for the home

by JULIA GREY

**W**ITH the winter months ahead, people turn their attention to decorating, and cleaning up properly can help you get the brushes out.

Here are some top tips:

Water-based paints are much nicer to use than oil-based ones, and also easier to remove.

They generally come off flooring, skin and clothes pretty easily with water, or water and household cleaner or sugar soap.

It's harder to remove oil-based paints, especially once they are dry, but fresh paint can usually be cleaned off with turpentine substitute (turps) or white spirit.

If you have to put either of these on your skin, wash it thoroughly afterwards with soap and water.

Large emulsion rollers

are a pain to clean, so if you've started painting with one and haven't finished, don't waste time cleaning it.

Instead, wrap it in a couple of plastic bags overnight. This will keep the paint moist, so it doesn't dry out, and you can carry on painting where you left off the next day. You can do the same with paintbrushes.

If you don't get rollers really clean, the paint will dry on the sleeve and ruin the finish next time you use it.

With emulsion rollers, it's a good idea to soak them in water first and then clean them thoroughly under a running tap – not very eco, I know – wringing them out constantly to remove the paint until the water runs clear.

Your paintbrushes should also be washed out in water or turps/white spirit, depending on the type of paint used.

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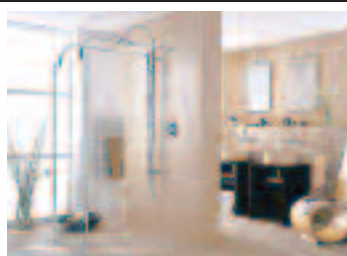
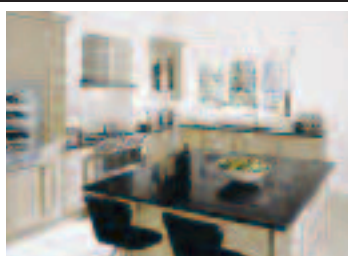
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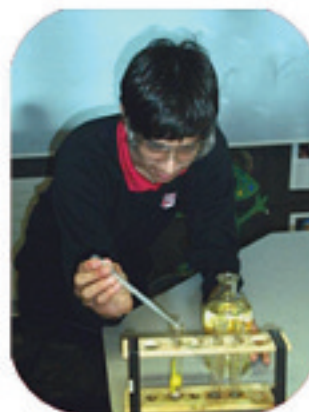
## Open Evening



**Penarth Site**

**Thursday  
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**6.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.**



Our Estyn Report said:

*'St Cyres is a very good school with a number of outstanding features. It has been successful in creating an inclusive ethos which results in a high quality education provision.'*

A Year 7 Pupil said:

*'The first day of school was really scary because I came up on my own. As soon as I walked in the door it was a pleasure to be here.'*



**World Challenge Expedition to South Africa.**

The trip took in three self-sufficient treks through National Parks in Swaziland, the Wild Coast and the world-famous Drakensberg Mountains. Thirteen pupils from Years 11,12 and 13 were involved.



The Parents of a Year 7 Pupil said:

*'My daughter had a brilliant first year in St Cyres. Academically, she achieved far more than I thought. We are very pleased with her report and couldn't ask for more.'*

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# PUPILS AIMING HIGH AFTER CONFERENCE

**YEAR-10 pupils at St Cyres School, Penarth, have attended a conference to launch the Intermediate and Foundation Welsh Baccalaureate.**

The conference, on the first Friday of the new term, was opened by headteacher Dr Hicks and speaker Mrs Glenda Jones.

At the event, students were shown the importance of boosting their key skills and getting experience in the workplace, in enterprise ventures and in the local community.

There were workshops from Show Racism the Red Card, Street Dance, Zumba, Yoga, South Wales Police, and the RAF led a series of team-building challenges.

A Year-13 group who have just returned from a World Challenge expedition with Mr H Thomas and his wife, also gave a presentation on their trip.

The conference closed when 250 balloons with the St Cyres School badge, and bearing a message from the students about the day, were launched.

One of the balloons has reached Lincolnshire and one was found in Gloucestershire, while another was found on St Cyres Road!

## Elias and Lauren prove to be budding politicians!

**THE head boy and head girl at a Penarth school have been taking part in European-level political talks.**

St Cyres School pupils Elias and Lauren were attending the EU Mock Council, where they were playing the role of EU delegates as St Cyres' representatives at the annual event.

The pair were assigned a key member state for the discussions – Greece – and held their own during a lively debate.

Held at Ty Hywel, the former home of the Welsh Assembly, 'Greece' was asked to provide its viewpoint on two contentious issues which have divided the European Union – the Common Agricultural Policy and the Euro zone.

Both Elias and Lauren successfully argued their case and were even able to convince other member states that Greece's plight was an issue worth tackling.



*Elias and Lauren at the EU Mock Council*

The event was recorded for television and received national attention.

Education Minister Leighton Andrews introduced the meeting and talks went on well into the afternoon.

## Sweet success

**PUPILS at St Cyres School enjoyed a very sweet task as part of their 'Business Skills' course.**

As part of a Work Skills course, students are studying the way in which a variety of products are manufactured and the working conditions in a variety of work places.

They all love chocolate, so a visit to a chocolate factory seemed like a good idea! Mr Clarey took 12 students to Michton's factory in Swansea to sample a large quantity of chocolate while being given details of the history, manufacturing and nature of chocolate.

Nobody was ill on the way home and everybody enjoyed the afternoon so, all in all, a very successful experience!

## Life drawing lessons

**PUPILS at St Cyres School, Penarth, have been developing their life drawing**

# ST CYRES SCHOOL NEWS

*Pupils released 250 balloons bearing messages from the students about the conference*



skills.

The Washington Gallery hosted sixth form art students from the school, where they received tuition in life drawing by Pauline Williams, assisted by her model Pip.

Pauline runs a life drawing class at the gallery, and she put on a special study day for students to learn observational drawing techniques.

After a tentative start, students soon relaxed and tackled more and more challenging poses as the day progressed.

Highlights included experimental use of colour from Hannah Tucker-Wilson and Charlotte Gonthier, who will develop their work into textiles, and some dramatic imagery from Olivia Richards, who plans to use her work in a painting.

Connor Mackenzie, Loren Hutchings and Cai Thomas all demonstrated a mature drawing style that captured a sense of mood as well as the proportion of the figure.

The WJEC moderators have complimented St Cyres art department on the standard and variety of

drawing techniques that students have been developing over the past two years. And all coursework and examination work was used by the examination board at this year's moderators' conference to aid with their assessment of artwork across Wales.

## Field trip

**THE Year-12 geography class at St Cyres School, Penarth, has recently returned from a successful residential field trip.**

Pupils carried out both physical and human field-work.

The physical fieldwork involved taking a range of measurements along the River Pennard. They started measurements at Parkmill and ended at the stunning Three Cliffs Bay.

The human fieldwork day was completed in Swansea City Centre and pupils carried out a transect from the SA1 redevelopment to the Townhill area of Swansea. Pupils were assessing environmental quality along the way.

# 0%

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## BLACKSMITHS ARMS CHRISTMAS PARTIES

(Lunch/Evenings) - 4 Courses £22.95

Start Wednesday 23rd November to  
Saturday, 24th December

## CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Only 1 sitting - open 12 noon - 4pm

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Young Diners (12 and under) £16.95



**BOXING DAY - Normal Menu**

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*Mike and Jackie extend their  
CHRISTMAS CHOICES*

**Festive Fayre Selections...**  
LLANMAES or BOVERTON, Vale of Glamorgan

*Why wait 'til Christmas -  
our Sunday Roasts are always popular!*

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2 Courses £16.95 - 3 Courses £19.95

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Looking to advertise? Email: [gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk)



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AND

**The Farmers Arms**



The Pub on the Pond, St Brides Major  
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## CHRISTMAS FESTIVE MENU

Available 21st November - 30th December

### STARTERS

Duck and Game Terrine  
Highland Smoked Salmon and Cream Cheese Parcels  
Golden Breaded Brie  
Homemade Winter Greens and Stilton Soup (V)  
Crayfish, Prawns and Apple Salad

### MAINS

Traditional Roast Turkey  
Braised Welsh Black Beef Casserole  
Sea Bass with Cranberry and Walnut Risotto  
Goat's Cheese with Spring Onion Gnocchi (V)  
Sirloin Steak 8oz (£3.00 extra)

### DESSERTS

Chocolate Roulade  
Traditional Topsy Christmas Pudding  
Baileys White Chocolate Cheesecake  
Clotted Cream Ice Cream with Mixed Berries  
A selection of Welsh Cheese and Biscuits  
2 Course £15.95 Adult (£8.95 Child's Portion)  
3 Course £19.95 Adult (£11.95 Child's Portion)  
(Excludes Sun days and 25th & 26th December)

**PARTY NIGHTS AVAILABLE WITH  
ENTERTAINMENT - £24.95 per head**

Party and coach bookings welcome (pre-booked)

For bookings, menus and general enquiries, please phone for details

[www.thefarmers-pubonthepond.co.uk](http://www.thefarmers-pubonthepond.co.uk)

[www.thesportsmansrest.co.uk](http://www.thesportsmansrest.co.uk)

# Christmas Party Guide

## The most important office party question - do you take your dancing shoes?

**E**VERYONE is familiar with the pitfalls of planning an office party, but perhaps the most tricky issue is this one - do you opt for a restaurant or pub, or choose

somewhere with a disco?

If ever a decision was designed to sort the exhibitionists from the wallflowers, this is it.

When the meal is finished, and the coffee is getting cold, the DJ lights up his cor-

ner of the room and says: "Hi everyone, are we having a great time?" - and puts on ABBA.

Actually, you could run an office sweep on this, and the person who draws out 'Dancing Queen' will be feeling pretty confident of taking the

money.

I guess its time to declare an interest at this point, as a fully paid up member of the two left feet, no sense of rhythm, section of society.

Members share a sense of dread as they work their way through the courses - because the moment is looming.

You can be pretty certain that most of the female side of the party group will get out there and shake their stuff.

It's not as if they are all good dancers - it's just that they are not hampered by the hang-ups so many blokes have.

So, the next calculation, is how many of your male colleagues will join them?

I find myself hoping that a small

group will do so. That's enough to give the girls something to dance around, and you are not left alone on the sidelines.

If no men get up to dance, then its just a matter of time before a raiding party from the dance floor swoops down on the cowering innocents and drags them out there - not kicking and screaming, but certainly shaking a bit!

Do I hear someone saying: "Hey, loosen up! It's meant to be a fun night."

That's true, and in fact I've never missed an office party. The truth is, it never has been that traumatic.

It's just that we non-dancers need a little sympathy now and again!

PHILIP IRWIN

## THE MAERDY HOTEL & Restaurant

*Festive Feasts & Family Favourites...*

Pencoed 01656 860654



**Sunday LUNCH**  
served  
12-4pm

### Restaurant Meals Mon to Sat

Breakfast/Lunch 7am - 3pm

Evening Meals 5pm - 9pm

£5 MEAL DEAL served 11am - 3pm

### Festive Fun Choices...

**3 Course PARTY MENU £14.95.**

(Mon - Thurs,  
12-3pm or 5- 9pm.  
31 Nov - 22nd Dec)

### 4 Course PARTY EVENING

Includes DJ. £29.95.

(Every Friday & Saturday throughout December)

### Starters

Winter vegetable soup  
Egg mayonnaise  
Prawn cocktail

### Main Course

Traditional roast turkey  
Sirloin beef  
(All served with Yorkshire pudding,  
roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables  
and Christmas trimmings)

### Desserts

Christmas pudding  
Home made trifle  
Strawberry gateau

Coffee and  
mince pies

*Book early to avoid  
disappointment*

*B&B Packages - an ideal solution!*

### Ample Parking Facilities

Directions: Junction 35 off M4, Pencoed exit, 'Mercedes' roundabout, situated on left hand side approach.

[www.maerdyhotel.com](http://www.maerdyhotel.com)



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Duty-free Christmas shopping.  
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4 - 7 November.  
Half-board, including  
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**£109**

Pick up points: Cardiff, Barry, Llantwit Major, Cowbridge & Bridgend.

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## CLUB RESTAURANT

90 South Road, Sully,  
Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 5SL

OPEN EVERY LUNCH: 12 - 2.30 pm

EVENING: WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY 6.30 to Late

**ALL WELCOME!**

### Christmas Day

5 Course Menu with all the trimmings £37.50

**STEAK NIGHT - Every Friday & Saturday**  
Two Steaks & Bottle of Wine from £20!!



Please call in or phone for a Menu & Booking form  
**TO BOOK PHONE SULLY 02920530353 / 20531700**  
PLEASE MAKE ALL RESERVATIONS IN ADVANCE

### Festive Evening

POTATO & LEEK SOUP  
FARMHOUSE PATE  
PRAWN COCKTAIL  
BREADED MUSHROOMS  
BREADED KING PRAWNS

ROAST TURKEY  
WELSH BEEF  
SALMON FILLET  
RUMP STEAK

CLASSIC NUT ROAST

CHRISTMAS PUDDING  
MIXED FRUIT TRIFLE  
PROFITEROLES

COFFEE AND MINTS

**£16.00 per person**





# Christmas Party Guide

## BE 'DRINK AWARE' AT PARTY

**C**HRISTMAS parties – whether an office do or a social event – are there to be enjoyed, but careful planning can make sure there are no negative consequences after the event!

The drink awareness charity, Drinkaware (www.drinkaware.co.uk) has a number of tips designed to get revellers to drink responsibly and make the most of the office party.

The charity quotes the example of a 36-year-old manager of a computer company. In the past he's dreaded having to organise his firm's annual bash.

He said: "Some of my co-directors have been in business since the 1970s, when all-day drinking was considered the point of any Christmas party."

"They used to order constant rounds and everyone else had to keep up. By about seven o'clock we all felt completely trashed."

After too many hungover telephone calls to restaurants apologising for the previous night's behaviour (and trying to locate lost coats and handbags) Roger decided

ed to ring the changes. He said: "These days I try and make sure that there's plenty of mineral water available on the tables for everyone and that people don't feel pressured to order alcohol."

"Most staff still enjoy a drink, but it does help calm everything down."

**ALCOHOL-FREE OPTIONS**  
The good news is that soft drinks are no longer seen as an unsophisticated option. With upmarket organic lemonade and cola, plus a wide range of alcohol-free cocktails increasingly available, taking a breather from the wine, beer or spirits does not have to be boring.

Alternating alcohol with softer options helps you make the most of the night ahead.

Non-alcoholic drinks keep you hydrated and ensure that you are still partying when others have long since flaked out.

He added: "One of the things I've realised is that pacing yourself is important."

"If you slow down with the wine, you get to enjoy a proper chat with people you might not have really spoken to all year."

**PARTY TIPS**

Eat before the party –

You're on a road to nowhere if you decide to swap dinner for a couple of drinks, as it gives the alcohol a head-start on your system.

To slow down the effects eat a meal (preferably with carbohydrates like pasta or bread) and grab some nibbles once the party starts.

Find out how much is too much – Government guidelines recommend men stick to three to four units of alcohol (that's two pints of beer or four single vodkas) per day, while for women it's two to three units (one 175ml glass of wine or three single vodkas). Watch out for over-generous party meas-

ures that mean you end up drinking more than you'd really like.

Plan your journey home – Don't leave yourself vulnerable on the way back from the party.

Either organise a lift from a non-drinking friend, or split a taxi with work colleagues that takes you straight to your door.

Looking to advertise? Email: [gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk)



### Christmas at The Carne Arms

LLYSWORNEY

**£21.95 Per Person**  
(Served Mon - Sat Lunch/Evening)

**\* CHRISTMAS MENU \***

**French Onion Soup**  
**Cinnamon & Clove Poached Pear**  
blue cheese, smoked bacon crisp & walnut dressing  
**Green Lip Mussels**  
Garlic, white wine, cream & toasted ciabatta  
**Confit Duck Leg**  
Mixed leaf salad, onion marmalade & balsamic syrup  
**Turkey Escalope**  
Stuffed with chorizo, sage & onion, wrapped in bacon  
**10 Ounce Poultyranch Farm Sirloin Steak**  
Port & Stilton Jus (£2.50 supplement)  
**Game Pie**  
Port, juniper & shallots

**Fillet of Salmon & Pesto En Crouste**  
Chive cream sauce  
**Risotto**  
Sun-dried tomato, olive, wild mushroom & parmesan  
*All main course served with a selection of seasonal vegetables*  
**Christmas Pudding**  
Brandy sauce & red currants  
**Fresh Lemon Pannacotta**  
**Grand Marnier & Orange Creme Brulee**  
Shortbread biscuit  
**A selection of Cheese's**  
Chutney & crackers

**28th Nov until 24 Dec**

**NEW AUTUMN MENU** Locally sourced produce assured.  
Food served: Mon-Sat 12 noon-2.30pm; 6.30-9.30pm, Sun: 12 noon-3pm  
CALL SOON...

**Bookings/Details/Menu: [info@carnearms.co.uk](mailto:info@carnearms.co.uk)**  
**Llsworney, COWBRIDGE CF71 7NG 01446 773553**



### BEST WESTERN Mount Sorrel Hotel

Christmas & New Year's 2011

**LUNCHEON** (Sit down 1pm)  
3 course plus coffee & mints  
only £15.95

**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH**  
(Sit down 1pm)  
3 course plus coffee & mints  
only £49.50

**CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHTS**  
(December 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th and 23rd)  
(Sit down 8pm)  
Prawn Cocktail  
Homemade Chicken Liver Paté and Melba Toast  
Homemade Cream of Vegetable Soup

Roast Crown of Turkey with Stuffing and Pigs in Blankets  
Roast Leg of Welsh Lamb and Mint Sauce  
Grilled Fillet of Salmon with White Wine and Chive Sauce  
Vegetarian Brie and Asparagus Cheesecake

All served with Roasted and New Potatoes, Steamed Carrots and Sprouts

Orange and Amaretti Truffle Torte  
Christmas Pudding and Brandy Sauce  
Followed by Coffee and Mints  
£27.95

**VALUE NIGHTS**  
November 26th, December 21st and 22nd (Sit Down 8pm)  
3 Course Menu plus Coffee & Mints  
£19.95

**TINSEL & TIARAS NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER**  
Prawn Cocktail  
Homemade Chicken Liver Paté with Melba Toast  
Homemade Cream of Mushroom Soup  
Roast Sirloin of Beef and Yorkshire Pudding with Cream Cheese and Watercress Sauce  
Vegetarian Cheese and Walnut Soufflé  
All served with New Roast Potatoes, Carrots and Broccoli  
Lemon and Mascarpone Parfait  
Dark Chocolate and Brandy Torte  
Followed by Coffee and Mints  
£49.50

Porthkerry Road, Barry, Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 7XY  
Tel: **01446 740069**  
Fax: **01446 746600**  
Email: [reservations@mountsorrel.co.uk](mailto:reservations@mountsorrel.co.uk)  
[www.bw-mountsorrelhotel.co.uk](http://www.bw-mountsorrelhotel.co.uk)

### The Casa Paco

1 BROAD STREET PARADE, BARRY

Available from 1st December

### Christmas Party Menu

**Monday-Saturday 6.30-9pm**  
Deep fried Brie with conserve  
Prawn cocktail  
Melon with port (or plain melon crown)  
Mushrooms cooked in Garlic Butter  
Farmhouse Paté served with Chutney  
Soup of the day  
Creamy Stilton Mushrooms

Roast Glamorgan Turkey with Chipolata, served with Cranberry & Apricot stuffing  
Rack of Welsh Lamb with Port & Redcurrant Sauce  
Chicken Princess (breast of chicken cooked in a white wine and cheese sauce)  
Grilled Scotch Fillet Steak (6oz), plain or with a choice of Au Poivre Sauce (creamy pepper), Champignon Sauce (rich mushroom) or Diane Sauce (onion, mushroom, wine & tomato)  
Fresh Salmon served with parsley and lemon sauce  
All served with vegetables of the day and potatoes

Choice from the Sweet Trolley

Coffee, Dinner Mint and Mince Pie  
**£28.50 per person**  
Friday & Saturday £28.50 per person  
Monday to Thursday £22.50 per person

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU**  
Served Tuesday-Friday 12-2pm  
4 Courses £19.95  
Booking Essential

**2 FOR 1 SPECIAL**  
2 x 3 Course Meals for only £29.95  
Available Tues to Thurs until 30.11.11  
We will be closed on Christmas Eve.  
Open New Years Eve.  
**01446 732009**

### Da Gennaro

RISTORANTE ITALIANO

New! You can now bring your own wine. No corkage charged.

### Christmas Dinner Menu

3 COURSE MEAL £19.95

**STARTER**  
Gamberoni Al Vino Bianco  
King Prawns cooked in garlic butter, white sauce  
Funghi Con Aglio  
Mushrooms served in garlic white wine sauce  
Chicken Paté  
Chicken paté served with toast and salad  
Zuppa di Vegetali Vegetable soup  
Asparagi & Gamberetti  
Asparagus, peeled prawns, parmesan cheese and cream baked in oven  
Ravioli ai Funghi  
Fresh ravioli cooked with mix of mushrooms, parmesan and cream

**MAIN COURSE**  
Bistecca Pepe Nero  
Sirloin steak grilled, served with black peppers, red wine and cream  
Pesce Spada Swordfish with lemon sauce  
Pollo Prosciutto e Mozzarella  
Chicken breast wrapped in parma ham, cooked in tomato sauce and topped with cheese  
Penne Ortolana  
Garlic, olive oil, courgettes, aubergine, cherry tomatoes and mozzarella  
Risotto Marinara  
Sea food risotto or risotto mushrooms

**DESSERT**  
Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce OR  
Timamisu

**Lunchtime Christmas Menu**  
2 COURSES £8.95  
3 COURSES £11.95

71 High Street, Barry,  
Vale of Glamorgan  
Telephone 01446 732557

### Simply Christmas

at The Red Lion Bonvilston

### Our Festive Menu ...

**STARTERS**  
Our own Homemade Tomato Soup served with fresh crusty oven baked roll.  
Honeydew Melon with Parma Ham served with our own Raspberry Coulis

**MAIN COURSE**  
Roast Glamorgan Turkey with Chestnut Stuffing and Bacon Wrapped Sausage.  
Fresh Fillets of Rainbow Trout accompanied with buttered capers.  
Selection of Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes served with the above main courses.

**PUDDINGS**  
Traditional Christmas Pudding served with Brandy Sauce.  
Tart Au Citron a tangy lemon tart with a winter berry coulis.  
**£9.95 Per person**

Available lunchtime and evening from 28th November 'til 24th December, Parties from 2 to 20.

**LUNCHTIME & EVENING Meals from £5.00**  
**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**  
Cobra Beer & Curry £6.99

**01446 781208**  
(On the main A48 between Cowbridge & Cardiff)

### THE SIX BELLS

Penmark Village Pub & Restaurant

**2 MAIN COURSES FOR £10**  
(selected menu)  
Available Tuesday - Saturday  
Lunchtimes & Evenings  
Only with this voucher -  
One voucher can be used for 2 people  
Valid until 12th November, 2011

**Special Offer ...**  
**Traditional Sunday Lunch**  
Served 12-4pm: 1 Course £6.95;  
2 Courses £8.95; 3 Courses £10.95

**Lunchtime Menu**  
Tuesday - Saturday • 12 noon - 2.30pm  
Our delicious dishes are perfect for that leisurely afternoon out or those business lunches when you need to impress

**Evening Dining**  
Tuesday - Saturday • 6pm - 9pm  
Our carefully selected menu offers a range of mouth-watering delights sure to tempt your taste buds.

**To Book - Call Us: 01446 710229**



# Christmas Party Guide

## The Six Bells, Penmark, sets a high standard with a great dining experience

by TIM CHAPMAN

THE Six Bells Village Pub and Restaurant nestles in the picturesque village of Penmark and under the guidance of the owner James Barnsley aims to provide the best traditional British fare, alongside modern, European dishes.

Built in the 1600s, with many period features, it has been renovated on numerous occasions, and in James's words "is a bit like the house that Jack built".

Its latest facelift in 2008 combined the cosiness of a traditional village pub with a contemporary look for the restaurant. On the chilly evening my wife and I visited the Six Bells, the roaring fires and flickering candles created a welcoming atmosphere.

My wife often chooses fish starters, but on this



ABOVE: The Six Bells provides a warm welcome to Vale diners.

occasion she plumped for the deep-fried brie, which consisted of bread-crumbed brie wedges, accompanied by a salad garnish and cranberry sauce at £4.50.

Cutting into the brie the melted cheese oozed out, and the combination of the flavours with the cranberry sauce was delightful.

Jenny, the waitress, told us that the soup of the day was cauliflower

and stilton and while I tend to enjoy mushroom or prawn starters, I was intrigued.

The soup was a triumph. People are used to the more common combination of broccoli and stilton, but this was a real surprise. Delicious! It was an outstanding dish – one of the best soups I have tasted, and only £3.95!

When my wife saw lamb on the menu, a particular favourite, she said she'd have to go for the roasted Welsh rump of lamb at £12.75.

The course consisted of medallions of lamb which she requested 'medium-rare'; the result was beautifully tender and succulent, sitting on a bed of sautéed potatoes, creamed leeks and a red wine sauce, which made a rich tasting dish that she enjoyed very much. My choice was the

pan-fried duck breast with stir fry vegetables, complemented by a honey, soy and ginger sauce at £11.95. The duck was very tasty and tender, despite the fact that I had requested it 'well done'.

My wife accused me of being a Philistine for not ordering it 'medium rare', a judgement that James agreed with later!

A side-order of extra vegetables – all the vegetables on the evening were crisp – ran to an extra £1.95.

For dessert my wife couldn't resist the Bailey's cheesecake, which was served with cream and ice-cream. My wife said it was 'smooth and light' and she would have liked a second helping!

I went for chocolate fudge cake with Chantilly cream, not stodgy, but surprisingly

light, and oozing a moist chocolate sauce. The desserts were both £3.95.

David Williams, the chef, excelled himself and we could understand why the restaurant is well supported by the local community, and why people visit it from far afield.

Another nice aspect of the dining experience was the attentiveness of Jenny the waitress, and James's hospitality – chatting away to diners and ensuring they were happy with the service.

In its favour too, is the fact that the Six Bells will cater for people with allergies and specific dietary requirements as well as offering options for vegetarians.

Our meal cost £25 each, including drinks, which for such a high standard was excellent value for money. We will be paying it another visit very soon.

**Chaplins**  
STEAK HOUSE



### Christmas at Chaplins Lunch Menu

Available Monday, 21st November until Monday, 9th January

#### HOMEMADE CREAM OF VEGETABLE SOUP V

A creamy homemade vegetable soup served with warm crusty bread

#### PLUM & BRANDY PATE

A coarse pork pate served with a plum compote and warm bread

#### CHICKEN GOUJONS

Prime chicken goujons served on a bed of savoury rice with a sticky redcurrant and cranberry dressing

#### ROAST BREAST OF TURKEY

Prime turkey breast served with a Yorkshire pudding stuffed with cranberry and chestnut stuffing and sausage and bacon roll

#### ROAST TOPSIDE OF BEEF

Roast topside of beef served with Yorkshire pudding stuffed with a cranberry and chestnut stuffing and sausage and bacon roll

#### HOMEMADE GLAMORGAN SAUSAGE V

A delicious combination of Chiffelli cheese, leeks and breadcrumbs made into a homemade sausage and served with redcurrants and cranberry dressing

ALL MAIN COURSES SERVED WITH ROAST & BOILED POTATOES, PEAS, CARROTS, SPROUTS & ROAST PARSNIPS

#### CHRISTMAS PUDDING & BRANDY SAUCE

Rich Christmas pudding served with a homemade brandy sauce

#### LEMON & GINGER CHEESECAKE

Served with raspberry compote

#### HOMEMADE SHERRY TRIFLE

Topped with shaved chocolate

**£18.95 per person**

THIS MENU IS AVAILABLE FOR BOOKING ONLY. LUNCHTIME ONLY 11.30am til 2.30pm  
A £5 DEPOSIT PER PERSON IS REQUIRED ON RESERVING YOUR TABLE

**82 HIGH STREET, BARRY - Tel. 01446 739155**

Check our our website for menus [www.chaplinsrestaurantbarry.webs.com](http://www.chaplinsrestaurantbarry.webs.com)

### The FONTYGARY INN

#### CHRISTMAS PARTY

BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN

3 COURSES £14.95

Includes

'FREE ENTERTAINMENT'

Friday and Saturday evenings

Available 17th November until 30th December

(Excludes Xmas Day). Please call for menu.

NEW YEAR'S EVE TICKETS - NOW ON SALE

MONDAY - THURSDAY EVENINGS

Two 8oz Sirloin Sizzlers for £12.90

THURSDAY NIGHTS

All curry meals just £5.95

HOME COOKED SUNDAY LUNCH

Fresh vegetables, Choice of Meats  
Served 12 noon - 4pm

LUNCHTIME SPECIALS

Available Monday - Saturday 12-3pm

WEDNESDAY IS QUIZ NIGHT

Free entry - Starts 8.30pm

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Regular Live Bands

Check out our website for details

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Saturday, 29th October  
Disco, Fancy Dress & Prizes

[www.fontygaryinn.co.uk](http://www.fontygaryinn.co.uk)

FONMON ROAD, RHOOSE  
TEL. 01446 711221



Refurbished, Re-opened, the Renowned...

**Red Lion at Pendoylan**

A tastefully prestigious venue with a reputation for fine wines and imaginative cuisine.

#### Christmas Celebrations - Lunchtime or Evenings

Warm Bread and Oils

Cream of Celeriac Soup with perl las croute (v)

Parfait of Chicken Livers with warm bread and Clementine salad

Potted Duck Rillettes with toasted pistachio, frieze salad and crostini

Home Cured Beetroot and Dill Salmon with carpaccio of beets,

horseradish cream and warm wholemeal bread

Ballotine of Pembrokeshire Turkey

smoked bacon wrapped turkey filled with pancetta, cranberry and roasted chestnuts,

with carrot and parsnip purees, rich jus and traditional accompaniments

Braised shin of Welsh beef with baby onions, pearl barley and roasted leek

on horseradish mash

Roasted Loin of Cod on fondant potato with a light stock broth, razor clams

and Welsh mussels

Bubble and Squeak Cake with breaded poached duck egg, mustard sauce and

wilted local greens (v)

The Red Lion's Matured Christmas Pudding with a creamy brandy sauce

and rich brandy butter

Egg Nog Brulee with vanilla sugar

Spiced Plum and Polenta Crumble with a fresh English custard

Rich Chocolate Tart with chestnut cream & mulled wine syrup

Coffee & Petit Fours

Eat, Drink and Be Merry - soon...

T: 01446 760690 E: [info@theredlionatpendoylan.co.uk](mailto:info@theredlionatpendoylan.co.uk)

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£19.95  
per  
person

### The Highwayman Inn

FONMON, RHOOSE



### CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHTS

Available December 2011

Thursday, Friday & Saturday Nights  
including entertainment

3 COURSE MENU ONLY £16.95

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Nights  
3 COURSE MENU ONLY £14.95

CHRISTMAS DAY 6 COURSE MEAL

£49.50 Adults, £10.50 Children (10 yrs & under)

Saturday 29th October

**Halloween**

Fancy Dress,  
Live Band 9pm

Sunday 30th October

**KIDS HALLOWEEN**

Fancy Dress, Party 6pm

Saturday Nights are Steak Nights

T-Bone, Rib-Eye, Tuna, Salmon, Swordfish etc.

Minibus Service available for Diners. For further bookings & details:

T: 01446 710205/ 07596 630057

email: [waynemor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:waynemor@hotmail.co.uk)



# Vale Mayor hosts Best Kept Village winners



## BKV JOY FOR SCHOOL

LEFT: Pendoylan with photograph album presented by the late Coun Lorna Hughes.



Michaelston-Le-Pit with chief judge Major Dan Clayton-Jones.

**RECENTLY, Coun John Clifford, the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, hosted a reception in his parlour for representatives of the winning villages in this year's BKV competition, together with primary and nursery schools.**

In welcoming them, he said: "The Best Kept Village competition is an important event in the Vale calendar and it is thanks to the villages and the schools that this competition is so successful. Thank you all for entering. "Your contribution improves the areas in which we live and

enhances our communities. I appreciate that it can be hard work, but the rewards are there for all to see!"

Basil Watkins, the competition chairman, is recovering from a knee operation (hence his seated position in photographs!). In his response, he thanked the Vale Council for its support, together with the other sponsors, Cemex (UK) Ltd, Aberystwyth and Dyffryn Gardens, together this year with Ffos Las racecourse. Without their sponsorship, used mainly for prize money, the competition could not continue.

He continued: "The children's competition is growing from strength to strength. This year, there was a record number of entries - 24 in total - in two categories: 6-11 years of age and 5 and under."

"The standard was so good, the judges had great difficulty in deciding the winners. They are

a credit to the teachers, parents and volunteers who have helped them."

The winner in the senior category was Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School.

The Mayor presented the two young children, Seren Rees and Nia Wozencroft, with Vale insignia badges, which they are proudly wearing in the photograph (top) with Mrs Lyn Murray, headteacher, and Emma Norton. Second was Ashgrove and third, St Andrews Major.

Cogan Nursery School was first of the up to 5 category, second was Cadoxton Nursery School and third, Eagleswell Primary. Mary Ponting, chief judge for the children's section congratulated everyone and said: "Let's have even more entries next year."

Coun Anthony Ernest, competition vice-chairman, in thanking the Mayor for his time and

hospitality, also thanked the chief judge, Major Dan Clayton-Jones, and the management committee for all their work in making this year's competition such a success.

That newcomers can take on the long established previous winners was evident by the success this summer of the tiny hamlet of Michaelston-Le-Pit, which had only entered on a few previous occasions but triumphed against the larger communities in the final judging.

It was also a landmark occasion in that Basil Watkins, BKV's long standing chairman, has said that he is going to retire this year. He will be greatly missed and his intimate knowledge of the Vale's many communities and personalities has been instrumental in ensuring the continuing success of the competition.

Steps will be taken to find a suitable successor.

## Kids get 'In the Zone'

**FREE play sessions for children are being offered in Penarth.**

If your child loved having fun on the Vale of Glamorgan Council's free play schemes during the school summer holidays then they will also enjoy the new 'In the Zone' sports and play sessions every Saturday afternoon at Penarth Leisure Centre.

Just like the summer schemes, these new weekly sessions are also free, and involve sports, arts and crafts, messy play and more. The sessions take place

between 2pm and 3.55pm and are for children aged five to 11.

'In the Zone' offers something for all youngsters to have a go at, regardless of any disabilities.

Joanne Jones, Vale Council's play development officer, said: "We are recreating everything that kids love about the summer holidays into two hours of fun every Saturday."

The 'In the Zone' sessions are being provided thanks to funding from a Community Focused Schools grant. For more information contact Joanne Jones on 01446 704809.

## Age Concern marks Older People's Day



ABOVE: Jane Hutt, Gay Fifield and volunteers

**THE Friends and Neighbours team at Age Concern's Senior Health Shop, held a coffee morning and raffle at the shop on Holton Road on Saturday, October 1.**

Gay Fifield said: "The theme was the cele-

bration of Older People's Day.

"Jane Hutt opened the coffee morning and there were a wide range of attractive stalls. The event raised a remarkable figure of £180, all of which will be used towards the Friends and

Neighbours Christmas party in December."

Friends and Neighbours meet at The Senior Health Shop on Holton Road. For further information on the group contact Gay Fifield 01446 400044.

## Nick's memorial talk enthralls audience

DINAS POWYS WI

**OUR October meeting began with a welcome to three visitors, two young and one older, who we hope enjoyed the experience and will return.**

The monthly meeting of the book club continues and the September walk proved to be enjoyable, but very muddy, as we walked around the Cwm towards Michaelston-le-Pit.

There were seven brave members plus one small dog, who was less muddy than the walkers at the end.

We enjoyed a craft afternoon with a display of jewellery and took part in a GFWI quiz in Porthcawl, where we did not disgrace ourselves.

Five members attended the Glamorgan Federation half yearly council meeting in Port Talbot on October 5, which was an excellent day out. The main speaker was Toyah Wilcox, who kept us enthralled with a talk about her life and entertained us with one of her hit singles.

On Thursday, October 20, we were walking in Bute Park, a repeat of last year, as we enjoyed the autumn colours. Our speaker for the evening was Nick Thomas, whose subject was 'Memorial Masonry'.

He showed us different styles of lettering for memorials and grave stones, telling us that slate is very much more expensive than marble. Granite is now imported from China and India, and lettering is either hand carved, which is better but can take three days, although it is less liable to error as it is a slower process, or sand blasted.

Nick is involved with the 'Dynamo project' which involves travelling round the country informing youngsters about business opportunities, and he is a member of the Memorial

Awareness Board, which takes care of the safety of cemeteries.

He began carving in 1998 with a love spoon, and from then his enthusiasm for carving was transferred to carving on stone. The writing has to be legible and well written, lettering on stone can last forever, but if leaded will only last for 40 years.

Sometimes, gold leaf is used.

In 2000, health and safety was introduced because old memorials can be dangerous. Eight people have died due to lack of safety in the last 30 years, but subsidence is prevalent in old cemeteries now. Nick was warmly thanked by Jill David, whose father had been a stonemason.

November is our annual meeting, when a new president and committee will be formed. We are asked to bring along an old bra, large or small, and these will be bagged for cash to assist African women with breast cancer. We also hope members will pack a shoe box for a child in need at Christmas.

The competition was an item beginning with the letter 'N' and it was won by Ann Fowler with a photograph of her Norwegian grandchild. Please come and join us on November 1 for our annual meeting at 7.30pm in the Lee Hall, Britway Road. We are aiming to attract young members so that the WI in Dinas Powys will continue to flourish.

## READERS' LETTERS EXTRA COMPETITION WAS A GODSEND!

**THANK you so much for the tickets to the Stitches and Hobby Exhibition on Saturday, October 1.**

I went to the show with my mum and it was excellent. As a fashion student, it was very worthwhile for my course and as every penny counts as a 'poor student', your competition was a 'Godsend'.

My mum entered my name and it was a thrill to win. I'm sure we will enter many more.

We are avid fans of The GEM.

Rachel Evans

## A few photos still to find

**READERS** in preparation for my fundraising talk in the church next March: George Baker, Robert Baker, Herbert Bardsley, Harold Booker, Herbert Bowen, Douglas Davies, William Davies, John Down, Arthur Froud, Leonard Froud, John Hibbert, William Langworthy, Arthur Perrott, Reginald Richards and Henry Thomas.

I can be contacted on 07708 255295. **Dr Jonathan Hicks**

I am still seeking photographs of the following

## AM takes a 'walk on the blind side'

**ELUNED Parrott AM recently took the opportunity to experience what it is like for blind and partially sighted people in Wales during a blindfolded walk in the Senedd.**

The regional AM for South Wales Central was attending a reception on behalf of Guide Dogs Cymru when they met guide dog owners, dog trainers and pups and jumped at the chance to experience a blindfolded walk with a cane around the Senedd.

Commenting on the experience, she said: "It was a very scary experience. It was amazing how vulnerable I felt, despite knowing I could take the blindfold off. The campaign is fantastic at helping participants understand challenges facing people with impairments."



Eluned Parrott pictured during her blindfolded walk at the Senedd.



# SMITH SHOWS AMBITION BUT LACKS CLARITY IN RELIGIOUS THRILLER

**S**INCE breaking through with 1994's *Clerks*, Kevin Smith has cornered the market in lewd comedy and dialogue that fizzles with popular culture references.

The likes of *Mallrats*, *Chasing Amy* and *Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back* have all shown that Smith can create a hilarious comedy, yet the writer/director has loftier ambitions.

While critically unloved and commercially dismissed, both *Dogma* and *Jersey Girl* showed Smith had more in his arsenal than jokes about getting high and the travails of the common (Jersey) man. So having bade farewell to his gaggle of characters with *Clerks 2*, Smith's latest film sees him take a different tack altogether.

*Red State* tells the story of three teenagers (Michael Angarano,

Nicolas Braun and Kyle Gallner) who, on the promise of a carnal encounter, show up to a secluded trailer; but they're drugged and wake up on the compound of hate-spewing fundamentalist preacher Abin Cooper (Michael Parks).

With their lives at risk, the trio must try to escape their captors, a task made all the more difficult when the authorities show up outside, led by Joseph Keenan (John Goodman), who have their own plans to deal with Cooper and his followers...

If there is one thing that Kevin Smith has never been afraid of doing, it's expressing an opinion. Whether through the medium of his own films, or via his extensive Q&A tours or articles, Smith is a voice in cinema that makes itself heard.

So a film that appears, on the surface, to debunk extreme religious believers - is

## SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

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Smith playing to the gallery and attempting to provoke debate? Which is all well and good, as long as you are saying something in the first instance; however, for once Smith hasn't been able to fashion any bite. *Red State*, while both an interesting addition to his cannon and a noble attempt to show his ability as a filmmaker, feels flat and lacking.

While Smith toyed with religion before in *Dogma*, here he is dealing with an ultra-conservative branch of religion that appears to be the preserve of middle American states, and he isn't afraid to show how their own brand of belief can veer towards the extreme.

In fact, the opening plays like a modern horror, as young, dumb,

over-sexed teenagers are set to be punished for their proclivities; yet while Smith has claimed this is his first horror film, it is more a psychological thriller; Smith more concerned with the motivations behind the behaviour rather than revelling in blood-soaked set-pieces.

While the traditional, snappy dialogue that you would expect is present and correct, there certainly appears to be an attempt by Smith to deepen things, with the characters on both sides of the divide being given ample opportunity to espouse their belief systems and the effect they have on the situation.

The film affords us an opportunity to look at the world through the eyes of the religious group (most notably in an electrifying diatribe from Michael Parkes early in the film), with Smith painting the authorities who move in on them as perhaps just as bloodthirsty and guilty of disregarding people's rights - a theme that comes up more than once, that we're all under the same umbrella, despite (or in spite perhaps) of our opinions.

But Smith doesn't explore the themes in as much depth as you would hope, instead allowing the film to degenerate into an admittedly well-executed hostage drama that sees characters offed with almost casual zeal, and downplaying the more interesting elements of the film, leaving you a little lost as to the point that he is trying to make.

He does draw some strong performances, chief among them being Michael Parkes' chilling zealot, a God-fearing gun-nut with an itchy trigger finger; it's a turn from the actor that delivers chills through its realism, while John Goodman, as the agent in charge of the hostage situation, attempts to show grace under pressure as he is put in a moral conundrum by the desire to do right against the wishes of his superiors.

Throw in some well-tuned, but slight, turns from the likes of Angarano, Gallner, Melissa Leo and Kerry Bishe, and the film doesn't trip up on the quality of its acting - instead it falls down on Smith's inability to nail the tone and what exactly he is trying to say.

While the writer/director should be applauded for broadening his horizons, both in terms of his direction and the subject matter he is covering, it needs something sharper and more well-tuned to really hit home; as it stands, *Red State* is well intentioned and interesting piece of work, but no more than that.

**VERDICT:** An uneven film that is well intentioned, if a touch mishandled in execution, *Red State* sees Kevin Smith transfer out of his comfort zone with mixed results. While he draws strong performances, and an air of menace from a group of religious fundamentalists with an extreme belief system, Smith's message feels undercooked and lacking, leaving the film to flounder somewhat. Average.

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *Hostel* (2005), *Rosemary's Baby* (1968).



The Women's Christian Fellowship Choir

## Choir comes full circle to perform in Vale

**THE Women's Christian Fellowship Choir from Lusaka, Zambia, has been touring Wales for the past two weeks and their visit will end this week where it started - in the Vale.**

The choir has given stunning performances in many venues including Cyncoed Methodist Church; St John's, Llandudno; the Mansion House of the Lord Mayor of Cardiff; and in the debating chamber of the Senedd.

Schools and churches in the Vale have been thrilled by their joyful singing and dancing - St Curig and Gladstone schools both enjoyed morning assemblies where the choir

brought the house down and received standing ovations.

When taking a break from singing, the choir has also visited many tourist attractions around the Vale, enjoyed time with their host families - and even been guests on the Roy Noble show.

The final concert of the 30 ladies from St Matthew's Church will be in Crossway Methodist Church today (Thursday, October 13) at 7.30pm.

A church spokesperson said: "Come early if you want a seat. We are confident in predicting a packed house and those who do make their way to Crossway are going to enjoy an unforgettable evening."

Entry is free with a collection going towards transport costs within Wales.

## Step back in time to the Fab Forties

**IT'S TIME to bring out the bunting as a Penarth hall is set to go back to the '40s later this month.**

The Paget Rooms in the town will step back to the 1940s on Saturday, October 29, as teenagers from the CAVMS Youth Jazz Orchestra provide the big band sound at the *Back to Forty 2* charity dance.

Built in 1906, the venue will become a time warp - decked out in bunting, flags and period morale-raising posters. Along with the sounds of the era, living historians will be dressed in 1940s clothing, with guests being encouraged to also wear 1940s dress.

Swing dancers and 1940s enthusiasts will be able to dance the night away to the sounds of Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington and Count Basie, performed live by the youth jazz orchestra, supported by Penarth-based specialist vintage DJ Dipsy Doodle.

The Cardiff-based youth orchestra provides an opportunity for students to learn to play jazz and big band music.

Band leader Dave Miller said: "The *Back to Forty 2* dance will provide the students with a great opportunity to experience what it was like to play at one of the dances during the heyday of big band entertainment.

"It will also help with their history; knowing

that along with the dancers and period re-enactors, they will be recreating one of the dances that took place in this hall all those years ago."

Dance organiser, Ade Pitman said: "Along with raising funds for the charities British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association and Combat Stress, our dance aims to raise an awareness of our local history too.

The dance will be a mix of dance enthusiasts and 1940s re-enactors, so it really will feel like you have stepped back in time.

"Dances like this were hugely popular during the Second World War. They helped to raise morale and smooth relations between the local population and the Americans. Local girls met American GIs at these dances, and around 700 of them became GI brides and moved to the States after the war.

"Our *Back to the Forties* dance last year raised over £900 for Help for Heroes, and we hope to beat this total this year."

Tickets are £10 in advance, £12 on the door and are available from Ade Pitman, on 07930 874161. Tickets can also be collected from Ade at the dance class held at the Paget Rooms on Monday evenings, 7.30pm - 8.30pm. The *Barry at War* website is at [www.barryatwar.info](http://www.barryatwar.info).

## Tribute concert for Neil Lewis

**BARRY'S best bands are lining up to pay a special musical tribute to one of the town's most famous musicians.**

Top local names, including The Underdogs, Ska Face, Pure Cult, Session and Freeway, will play the third Neil Lewis Memorial Concert at Barry Island Sports and Social Club on Friday, October 21.

Respected artist Neil, who passed away in 2009, played for many years with Max Boyce, even enjoying a minor hit with a tongue-in-cheek tribute to the band's road crew called 'Packer of the Leads'.

He also supported Fairport Convention, Tom Paxton and Billy Connolly - and lived and played in both Canada and Bermuda before settling back in his native Barry.

Son Rhys, who organises the yearly event for local music-lovers to get together and remember the man himself, said: "There is a top line-up for this year's concert and although the running order has yet to be confirmed, it promises to showcase much of the Barry music scene's hottest talent."

Tickets (£7.50) are available From The Windsor Hotel on Holton Road, Barry Island Social Club, or by calling 07595 497255. A Neil Lewis Memorial Concert 2011 event page has been set up on Facebook and you can also visit [www.neillewis.com](http://www.neillewis.com).

All profits this year will go to Karen's Cause, which has been set up by Barry woman Karen Holroyd, to raise funds for specialist 'cyber-knife' treatment to be made easily available for cancer patients in Wales.

## Penarth Computer Club: Remembering Steve Jobs

**IT CANNOT have escaped your notice that Steve Jobs of Apple computer fame has died, aged 56.**

He was a founder of Apple computers, made a fortune and was ousted by someone he recruited. He went off and made a bigger fortune elsewhere, then sold his new company to his old company and returned to run the old one again!

Back in charge, he brought to market products that have been extraordinarily successful: the iPod, iPhone and iPad. Each product has been developed and updated and has taken the market by storm.

His obituaries are longer than usual, trying to do justice to his story. Even so, you need several of them to get a rounded picture of the man.

You mostly get an impression of a tyrannical boss who insisted on his high standards, whether they related to the quality of the design of the device; the elegant simplicity of its operation; the quality of its construction or secrecy about the products before launch.

Some point out that when he returned to Apple he stopped all philanthropic giving by the company. Employees could be "bawled out" and lauded almost in the same breath. He was generally difficult to work with.

So why was he so successful? He had a gift for knowing what the customer wanted. That sounds as though it is easy - you simply ask the customers. It doesn't quite work like that.

Customers often don't know what they want.

Steve Jobs had the priceless gift of seeing what they would want if they could imagine it was possible to have it.

He had the authority and character to insist on unusually good 'feel' to the products when in use - the very essence of good design. He was adamant that controls would be minimal, intuitive and effective. He didn't suffer any stultifying bureaucracy and

could be ruthless in his ambition.

Naturally, he got less opposition after his early successes proved him right. The company thrived and this year, briefly, it was the most valuable company on the planet.

It was Jobs' presence that pushed the development of personal music players, mobile communications and tablet computing. More should yet come from his work in progress. When that is exhausted, will there be someone else able to drive the rapid progress the world now takes for granted?

Penarth Computer Club doesn't deal with Apple computers. Apple uses its own operating system and (until fairly recently) would generally not work with Microsoft software that most people use. Apple computers are often regarded as better, but they are more expensive as well.

This snippet cannot possibly deal with the complexities of Steve Jobs. Browse the web to read more about his fascinating life, or wait for the inevitable biographical film!

We next meet on Tuesday, October 25. Kevin will review the need, principles, and latest thinking on backing up data. Visitors welcome. Visit [penarthcomputerclub.co.uk](http://penarthcomputerclub.co.uk).

Howard Desmond, chairman

## Ty Hafan lottery

**The following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D691.**

● £2,000: 462383.  
● The rollover, which now stands at £1,000, was not won this week.  
● £10: 5 1 5 8 1 8 . 430870, 818922, 898090, 618391, 816918, 311552, 345509, 526243, 849538, 587602, 653424, 865062, 911634, 480086, 424791, 104028, 503919, 808185, 544664.  
● £5: 460878, 353886, 204105, 239624, 776464, 663556, 580833, 747375, 199622, 472533, 190915, 754790, 239105,

401469, 403795, 111708, 395146, 644239, 498686, 547407, 220605, 412115, 360357, 503688, 981669, 172046, 639216, 461009, 755217, 823384, 888778, 608885, 890062, 797890, 536533, 212695, 709266, 526911, 257409, 747285, 439523, 775404, 770592, 266897, 431428, 515350, 390175, 523785, 517400, 391252, 310252, 634510, 733750, 393779, 318892, 871217, 651260, 702069, 167036, 755011, 615878.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.



# Out and About with The GEM

## Celebrity chef set to stir things up at food festival

**RENOWNED food writer, journalist and broadcaster Elisabeth Luard will give a demonstration at this year's biggest ever Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival.**

The festival is on Saturday and Sunday, October 29 and 30.

Elisabeth, 69, settled in Ystrad Meurig, Ceredigion, after years of travelling around the world with her family. As a child she spent her time in the kitchen in Montevideo in Uruguay where she would help the family's cook prepare meals.

Elisabeth said: "I noticed that the food the cook prepared for the dining room was a lot less interesting than what was prepared for the servants. They had

lots of delicious stuffed vegetables and neat little croquettes, which I was allowed to help to roll, slow-cooked stews with beans or lentils finished off with olive oil and big handfuls of shredded greens."

Elisabeth went on to have a family of her own, who she brought up in Andalucia, which inspired her 1991 book *The Cooking of Andalucia* and won her the Guild of Food Writers' Book of the Year Award. The family then spent a year in the Languedoc before returning to Britain.

Since her first book *European Peasant Cookery* in 1986, Elisabeth has gone on to write numerous books, both biographical as well as foodie titles, and regularly writes columns for the *Daily Mail*. She has also starred in her

own television series on BBC 2, *The Rich Tradition*.

Although Elisabeth loves Mediterranean flavourings and olive oil, her latest book, *A Cook's Year in a Welsh Farmhouse*, released in May, is a reflection on her time spent closer to home and will form the basis of her demonstrations at the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival. Elisabeth will be sourcing all of her own ingredients from exhibitors at the festival and showing visitors how to cook with local produce.

Elisabeth said: "Coming to cook at the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival will be a real treat for me as this is the best time of year for local ingredients."

"There's sure to be plenty of good things to work with and I intend to cook what I find,

which is how I like to decide what's for dinner. I sometimes describe my culinary style as reaction-cooking; first you look at what's there and then you make it taste good."

"Wales has fabulous ingredients - great lamb and beef, beautiful butter and cheese, wild-gathered fungi and fruits, fantastic home-grown vegetables."

The Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival, which last year won the award for the Best Community Event at the National Tourism Awards, is in its eighth year and attracts more than 20,000 visitors.

John Davies, chairman of the festival said: "We're really excited to have Elisabeth join us this year. She has such a following among the food community and we're sure that both



**Elisabeth Luard**

first-time visitors as well as regular festival-goers will thoroughly enjoy her demonstration."

Elisabeth will be demonstrating on Saturday, October 29, and will also be available to sign books after the demo or 2pm-2.30pm in the main exhibition marquee at Graffeg's stall, where you can buy a copy.

## Setch exhibition is a 'highlight of the year'

**AN EXHIBITION of work by internationally-renowned artist Terry Setch has gone on display at the Art Central gallery in Barry.**

An invite-only preview took place on Monday, and was followed by the main opening to the public on Tuesday, October 11.

The exhibition will be open until November 12, and admission is free.

The distinguished Penarth-based artist is a member of the Royal Academy of Arts and the Royal West of England Academy. He creates works that are inspired by his local environment in South Wales, and uses mixed media and found materials to produce a distinctive style.

Since the early 1970s, a key source for his ideas has been the beach close to where he lives in Penarth.

Tracey Harding, arts development officer at Vale of Glamorgan Council, said: "Terry Setch is one of Wales' most important artists with a long career that has seen him participate in UK exhibitions every year since 1956. It is a real privilege for Art Central to host this exhibition and definitely one



**Terry Setch with his piece Time in Running Out. PHOTO BY HANNAH SINCLAIR**

of our highlights for 2011."

Setch has had more than 36 solo exhibitions, including a UK touring retrospective, and has been exhibited across Europe, America and Australia. His contribution to the art world has been rewarded with numerous prizes including a Welsh Arts Council Major Artist Award and recently the Bryan Robertson Trust Award.

His work is also represented in a number of major public collections including the Tate, Victoria and Albert Museum and the National Museum and Galleries of Wales. His commissions have included a mural for the National Museum of Wales. The gallery is open Tuesdays to Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

## WHAT'S ON IN YOUR AREA

### Friends' meeting

**BARRY** and Vale Friends of the Earth will next meet on October 11 at 7.30pm in the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry. **Folk dance for Eisteddfod**

A TWMPATH (folk dancing) will be held in the Old School Hall in Sully on October 15, 7pm til late.

Tickets are £5 adults, £3 under-18s, to raise money towards the

National Eisteddfod in the Vale 2012. There will be a bar available.

### Valeways walks

'WAR bunker walk', starting at the visitor centre, Cosmeston Country Park, 2pm, Sunday October 16 - contact 07971 695780.

Sully coast and village, starting outside Sully Church, Sully, at 1.30pm on Tuesday, October 25 - contact 07889 522321.

Join the Coffee Shop Strollers for an easy walk in good company;

Wednesdays, October 19, November 2, 16 and 30. Meet at 1.45pm outside Tourist Information Office, Barry Island.

**Legion's AGM** THE next meeting of the Barry branch of the Royal British Legion will be held on October 17 at 2.30pm in the Mayor's Parlour at Barry Memorial Hall. This will also incorporate the annual general meeting.

### Red Cross fabric sale

THE COWBRIDGE Red Cross Group is having a mini fabric sale on Thursday, October 20, at the group's Broadshoard Centre (10.30am - 12.30pm).

Assorted lengths, remnants, embroidery items, wool, buttons, etc will be available. It will also be open the day before for donations (same time) or phone 01446 773987 for assistance. Free entry.

### Tax advice on offer

THE next income tax surgery to offer free professional help and advice to those with income tax queries, is to be held at the Age Concern offices, Holton Road, Barry, on Monday, October 31 from 9.30am-12 noon.

### Charity coffee

THERE will be a charity coffee morning for Parkinsons UK at All Saints Lesser Hall,

**Victoria Square, Penarth, on Thursday, October 20 at 10.30am-12 noon.**

Entry (£1) includes coffee/tea and Welsh cakes. All enquiries to 02920 711657.

### Autumn fayre in Penarth

ON Saturday, October 22, there will be an autumn fayre in the Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth, 10am-12 noon.

There will be an excellent number of stalls, with homemade cakes and preserves, plants, books and many other items.

Admission (50p) includes refreshments. All proceeds to the Children's Society.

## Live music

THERE will be live music from *Eject, Pilot Eject!* At Gordon Bennetts, Barry, on Thursday, October 20 from 8.30pm.

Entry is free.

## Event will rock!

BEING held on Saturday, October 22, and Sunday, October 23, at the National Museum Wales, Cardiff is Geofest, a festival of geology.

From 10am to 4pm each day, the museum will be alive with hands-on geological activities, displays and stalls.

As well as displays of rocks, minerals and fossils, there will be workshop activities for children,

talks, sales of books and minerals, behind-the-scenes tours of the museum's geological department and more. And it's all free!

On Saturday, October 22, there are also two special free talks in the museum's Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre: 11am, "Archaeopteryx: Celebrating 150 years", by Dr John Nudds of Manchester University; 2.30pm "The biggest pterosaurs in Britain" by Dr Dave Martill of Portsmouth University.

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# JUMPING FOR JOY AT TRIALS SUCCESS!

THE Glamorgan Hunter Trials were held at the Alps, Wenvoe, on October 2 in glorious weather.

There were record entries in seven classes with jumps and hazards of all sizes and difficulty, ranging from minimus to the open, which offered very good sponsored prize money.

The event is now well known, and attracted competitors from England and all over south and west Wales.

Photographs by  
**HEATHER MARCH**



*Sian Cothi took time off broadcasting to tackle the course.*



*Lisa Lidsey from St Mary Church had a very good day, winning the intermediate on Indie and being placed second on the open on Big Al.*



*Mark Edwards of Llandow won the open riding Kilipan Lassie.*



*Russel Pritchard from Ewenny in the Open.*



## Good win for Codeworks netball

**CODEWORKS** Westend Netball Club's second team took on Heath Angels E at Sofia Gardens, thrashing them by 39 goals to 13.

Each quarter was pretty much the same, with Westend staying on top and playing an impressive all-round game of netball.

The defensive players

Lisa Holland, Siobhan Griffiths and Hayley Greening had some lovely interceptions, taking the ball back down the centre court by Chantelle Meah, Claire Dutton and Abi Ladner and eventually into the circle with some outstanding goals scored by Emma Hughes and Nina Jones.

Chantelle Meah was named player of the match by the opposing team.

**KR**

## Park Funerals support Park Lions footballers



IT is with great pleasure that Park Independent Funeral Directors have sponsored and purchased kits for Barry Island's Park Lions football team.

Principal of Park Funerals, Lyndsay Ellis, commented: "I'm so pleased and proud that we can do

this for the local team, and what a coincidence with the name too!

"We take pride in supporting local charities and members of our community, and to see the smiles on those we help is such a privilege.

"We wish the team well for the season and are sure they will do well."

## Millwood Inn grab derby bragging rights

**MILLWOOD INN**  
**TYNEWYDD INN**

**2**  
**1**

THIS fixture is always looked upon as a derby, as Millwood played under the Tynewydd name for a season.

Tynewydd started the game looking for the long ball from Jodie Sheppard for Lewis Union while Millwood had a few early chances as Connell and Mazey gave the defence problems.

Millwood broke the deadlock, Mazey's cross

allowing Anthony Connell to clip a shot in at the front post.

In the second half, the deep cross to back post was won with a towering header by Cayton, whose knock down to Eveleigh was hit on the volley, only to see it bounce off the inside of the post. Luckily, Elliot Cayton slotted home for 2-0.

Tynewydd made it 2-1 but Millwood shut up shop to take all three points.

**PE**

## Dockers grab three points

**DOCKERS** continued their up and down season with a match against Park Vets.

The Dockers started the liveliest and went to two goals ahead within the first few minutes.

A momentary loss of concentration allowed Park Vets to create a scoring opportunity, which was well taken, and they managed to score a scrappy, yet well deserved, equaliser from a corner to take them into half-time all level.

Dockers came out in the second half eager to regain their lead and Dan Aeyad scored his second of the season, and the teams third, with a superb strike.

A fourth goal put the game out of reach for the Park, and the Dockers were now spraying the ball round and after some fine passing, the energetic Lyndon Goodrich finished off with a header after a cross from out wide.

Park did score a third from the penalty spot

after some indecision from the Docker's keeper forced the excellent Bobby Brown to commit a foul trying to prevent a goal.

Dockers managed a sixth after another flowing move was finished off coolly by Richard Ferguson.

The Dockers travel to in-form Llantwit this Saturday.

**JH**

## Learning curve for Barry Bombettes

ON another wet and windy day, Barry Ladies RFC faced their second league fixture of the season against Treorchy.

With both teams struggling for numbers for various reasons, it was only ever going to be a 12-a-side match.

Treorchy won the toss and opted to play into the wind. Despite this, they managed to break through The Bombettes' defence to score a try.

Barry upped their defence and showed fantastic commitment with their tackling, even making the Treorchy try line on a couple of occasions. Despite this, Treorchy broke the line again and managed to score a further two tries in the first half.

The Bombettes came back out with determination and their defence was second to none, with outstanding rucking and committed tackling from all.

Treorchy managed to get the ball to their wing, who ran straight through to score despite being chased to the try line.

We can be contacted via our email [barryladiesrfc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:barryladiesrfc@hotmail.co.uk) or by phoning Beckie on 07528 933227. No experience is necessary. **RB**

Barry kept up the defence and kept Treorchy on the halfway line for the majority of the second half. In the last two minutes, Treorchy got a lucky break with the wind taking the ball from Barry, resulting in a try. Final score 29-0 to Treorchy.

As a development side, The Bombettes have a number of positives to take from the match and build on.

Team: Captain - Rebecca, Sam, Megan, Angela, Tara, Lynsey, Nikki, Kim, Lynsey R, Hannah, Ceri and Beth.

Player of the match went to Kim Kimothy Jones who played an outstanding game.

Any ladies interested in playing rugby would be more than welcome at Barry Ladies RFC.

Training is on Mondays 6.30pm onwards at Barry Rugby Club and Thursdays 8pm-9pm on the all-weather pitch at Bryn Hafren.

We can be contacted via our email [barryladiesrfc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:barryladiesrfc@hotmail.co.uk) or by phoning Beckie on 07528 933227. No experience is necessary. **RB**

## Cottrell ladies win league

**COTTRELL Park Ladies' first team has won Division One of the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire Ladies' Golf League for the first time.**

Helen Little, team captain, said: "It is an amazing achievement, I can hardly believe it. I'm so proud of the team."

The Glamorgan and Monmouthshire League currently consists of 104 teams playing in 10 divisions. Cottrell Park first entered the league in 1999 and, as with all newly-entered teams, was in the lowest division.

The team won promotion in its first year and continued to climb the divisions every year (except one) reaching

Division One in 2010.

Over the past 12 years, the make-up of the team has inevitably changed, but one member has remained constant.

Sandra Collin has played in the first team every year since it was formed and for four of those years she was team captain.

The members of Cottrell Park Golf Club, and especially the ladies who played in the victorious team, are justly proud and excited.

Cottrell Park Ladies' first team: Gemma Bradbury, Katie Bradbury, Helen Poole, Helen Little (captain), Sandra Collin, Kay Bradbury, Jacki Boyes, Vicki Long and Rebecca Roberts.



# Swimming gala is a great success



ABOVE: Keith Rogers presenting the cup and shield to Georgia and Rhys with Rhiannon

## BARRY Amateur Swimming Club held the fifth annual Lez Rogers Memorial Gala on Saturday, September 17, at Barry Leisure Centre.

This event is held in memory of Lez Rogers, who died in Australia in June 2006 attending a Tenpin bowling competition representing Wales.

Lez did so much for the club so his wife, Kay, who still coaches for the club and daughter Carrienne, wanted to do something in his memory.

Barry ASC welcomed Brenda and Keith Rogers, Lez's mum and dad, and also Auntie Ceri and cousin Rhiannon to watch the gala.

Barry welcomed Blaenafon and Rhondda to the event and starting the event off was the 10 and under 4 x 25m medley mixed relay.

Barry put in a very good effort and came second in a very tight finish in a time of 1m.35s.81, which was one hundredth of a second behind Rhondda.

To start our run of first places, the open age group came first in the 4 x 50m mixed medley relay in a time of 02m.15s.31, over 15 seconds ahead of the other teams.

Luke Birnage in the 10 and under 50m breast stroke, took first place in a time of 48s.96, which was an improvement on his previous time for this event.

Swimming in the 13 and 14-year-old girls' 50m back stroke, Olivia Insole gained first place in a time of 41s.00.

Kate Lewis gained a first place in the 50m front crawl girls' open age group in a time of 33s.12.

Not to be outdone, Simon Perry in the boys open age group came first, in a fantastic time

of 28s.62.

In the 10 and under mixed relay 4 x 25m butterfly, the team came first in a time of 1m.36s.37, while the 14 and under mixed relay team, swimming 4 x 50m, came first in a time of 2m.37s.06 and also the open age group in a time of 2m.13s.96.

Declan Ewington in the 10 and under 50m back stroke in a very strong finish (over 13 seconds ahead of Blaenafon) took first place in a time of 42s.00.

Bethan Williams swimming in the girls' 11 and 12-year-old 50m breaststroke, took first place in a time of 44s.87, which was more than three seconds faster than her previous personal best.

Swimming in the girls' 13 and 14-year old age group, Georgia Looker swam the 50m front crawl in a time of 32s.96 to gain first place.

Rhys Perry came first in the boys' open age group in the 50m butterfly, in a time of 29s.87.

In a clean sweep of the 4 x 25m and 4 x 50m mixed back stroke relays, Barry gained first place in all four age groups with very good times for all of the age groups.

Having recently moved from Tenby and swimming a gala for the first time for the club, Lewy Blanc took first place in the boys' 50m 10 and under butterfly in a time of 56s.94, which was four seconds ahead of Rhondda.

For the open girls' 50m backstroke, Alana Wilson took first place in a time of 37s.03.

Barry took first place in all four of the 4 x 25m and 4 x 50m breaststroke relays with the open age group doing extremely well winning their race by over 15 seconds.

In the 10 and under boys' 50m front crawl, Jacob Davies, who has not been with the club

long, did very well and came first in a time of 39s.81.

Grace Insole, swimming in the girls' 11 and 12-year-old age group 50m back stroke, swam in a time of 39s.84 to take first place yet again for Barry with a nearly one second improvement on her previous time for this distance.

With a three-second lead, Georgia Looker took first place in the girls' 13 and 14-year-old age group 50m butterfly event in a time of 33s.37 followed on by Ryan Connor in the boys race, again coming first in a time of 38s.03.

Ryan swam a fantastic race and improved his previous time by more than 24 seconds.

Danielle Davis swam in the girls' open 50m breast stroke event and took first place in a time of 41s.06, which was a personal best and improved on her time by more than one second.

Swimming in the final individual event, Rhys Perry took first place in the boys' open age group in the 50m breast stroke in a time of 34s.3; this was also a personal best for him.

To finish up a fantastic gala, Barry took first place in the final event, the open age group 50m front crawl relay in a time of 2m.01s.68, which was more than five seconds ahead of Blaenafon.

Everyone said that they had a fantastic gala and waited eagerly for the final results. After 52 events, Barry ASC came first with 273 points followed by Blaenafon with 250 points, and Rhondda with 207 points.

Mr Keith Rogers presented Georgia Looker, vice club captain, and Rhys Perry, club captain, with the shield donated for the event by Kay and Carrienne Rogers.

Swimmers of the meet went to Shaun Bowden and Ryan



Keith Rogers with all of the swimmers

Connor for the fantastic effort they put in, and swimming above their age group.

For the girls, it went to Llinos Goodland for her support and show of team spirit.

A big thank you must go to all the officials and helpers during the event as without their help we would not be able to run the event or many of the other events the club holds.

Barry Amateur Swimming Club is always looking for new members to join the club so if you would like a trial, please phone Mrs Heulwen Cooper on 01446 733784.

We swim at Barry Leisure Centre and Cardiff International Pool.

WT



Coach Mike Looker with Llinos, Shaun and Ryan

## BARRY RFC ROUND-UP

# Llandaff put seconds to the sword as thirds come close

## BARRY Second XV were well beaten in this tough away cup-tie against Llandaff RFC.

With once again numerous injuries to deal with only three replacements were named, and the threadbare side was no match for a well-drilled first XV from Llandaff.

Adam Lee scored the only points for the visitors with a well-struck penalty.

Team: Hewitson, M Jones, O Poole, Parker, Betts, Thorne, Lee, Lundy, Hosking, Houldey, Haigh, Rendall, L Jones, Case, Rolfe; Subs used: Summerhayes, Thomas.

## Llanishen Third XV 41, Barrians 36

THE Barrians finally got their season under way with a friendly away fixture against Llanishen.

With the number of players unavailable to the club as a whole, it was a minor miracle that this fixture took place at all. The Barrians travelled to their hosts with no substitutes, no kicking tee, players out of position but yet plenty of spirit. Player-manager Ken Chow handed debuts to seven players,

with only three of the XV actually having played this season.

Any doubts as to whether the Barrians had the appetite for the game were extinguished two minutes after kick-off, however, as Chow himself collected a fine pass to dive in the corner for the first score.

The recalled Chris Chucas, normally a back-row forward, operated at outside-half for the day, and he mixed his game with some intelligent kicking, solid running and crunching tackles.

The forwards, led by last season's player-of-the-season Andy Moffat, were giving the makeshift fly-half the platform to showcase his talent, and he soon added another score himself, powering through under the posts.

Llanishen responded with a try of their own after creating an overlap, but Barry responded by keeping the scoreboard ticking over.

The hard graft of the back-row forwards once again created scoring opportunities, and before halftime Chucas had scored a brace, while No.8 Jones and Awaient also got on the scoresheet.

Awaient's try, in particular, was one to remember as he sprinted the length of the pitch to ground between the posts.

With no replacements on the bench and most players lacking in match fitness, the Barrians noticeably wilted in the second half, as their hosts brought on a hoard of fresh legs.

The Barrians continued to battle but saw their advantage disappear in the second half, despite some spirited defensive work; Awaient, Davies, Moffat and Jones deserved particular credit.

Chucas completed his hat-trick, and his performance on the day was all the more

remarkable as he converted three out of the six tries by drop-kicking.

Ultimately however, it was not enough, despite Awaient having a last-ditch attempt to scramble to the line, but his efforts were denied by the referee's whistle.

The management would like to thank all the players who turned up on the day to kick start the Barrians' season.

Team: Boffy, Chow (c), Awaient, Davies, King, Tovey, Chucas, Rendall, Dyer, Foulkes, Moffat, Hall, Harding, Williams, Jones.

Men of the match: Chucas and Moffat.

KC

## Vale coach nominated

THE coaches aiming to lift the prestigious Welsh national coach of the year titles for 2011 have now been revealed.

After sifting through a record number of entries, a panel of judges – which included representatives of governing bodies, young people, sports coach UK, disability sport and Sport Wales – have managed to whittle down the nominations and select their favourites.

Among this year's nominated finalists is Anthony Hughes from the Vale of Glamorgan. He has been recognised in the 'Coach of the Year to Disabled Sportspeople' section.



# BLUSTERY CONDITIONS FOR FINALS DAYS AT WENVOE CASTLE GOLF CLUB

**WINDY conditions added to the test of golf over two consecutive Sundays as players battled for honours in the final stages of the club championships.**

A full programme on both days saw finalists teeing off in the early hours with a number of competitions being played over 36 holes.

Back in time for lunch and back out again soon after was the gruelling day for some players.

Included in a busy programme were the finals of the Hallett League and Plate Competitions on the first Sunday, and the Hallett Cup final played the following week.

These latter matches were between teams who had successfully fought their way to the finals, and Wenvoe Castle is the traditional home for finals of the Hallett Society competitions.

More than 40 clubs throughout south Wales compete in the knockout stages and to reach the final is a considerable achievement.

The course was prepared and presented at its best and without exception, the players spoke highly about the excellent condition of the course.

The referees who presented the trophies at the finish of the individual matches consistently spoke of the sporting manner and the spirit in which the matches were played.

## MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

The men's club championship was a very close affair with Lloyd Evans and Tim Hanson exchanging the lead over the first 18 holes.

Tim took a narrow one-hole lead into the second 18 holes.

Tim had actually played to par, highlighting the high quality of golf in very testing conditions.

However, a barrage of birdies at the start of the second 18 holes saw Lloyd take a lead which he never gave up to clinch the title of club champion.

## LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP

The ladies championship, also played over 36 holes, was a very close contest with Pat Jarvis just a single hole in front over Sheila Morrow over the first 18 holes.

Both players coped very well with the very tricky windy conditions but gradually Pat increased her lead over the finishing holes and deservedly won the match to become ladies champion.

The remainder of the finals were played out over 18 holes, the majority of which were decided on the last few holes and in several cases, the final hole.

In the men's competitions, Tim Hanson overcame his disappointment in the club championship by going on to defeat Paul Wheatley in the final of the Robert Rickards Trophy.

Matthew Gill and Ian Pearcey battled to overcome a strong challenge by Mark Gallivan and Mike Veryard to win the H Reagan Foursomes trophy on the final hole.

## DRAGON TROPHY

Darren Jefferies certainly enjoys the Dragon Trophy and successfully defended his title when holding off a strong challenge by Mark Costello.

There were also four further finals in the ladies competitions, where Wendy Motton saw off the challenge of Janet Williams to win the ladies bronze championship and Linda Bird won the Mary Fellows Bowl in a very tight contest with Sheila Davies.

Nicola Sims took the Blod Lewis Cup with a very steady performance against Margaret Curry.

Sheila Morrow took some consolation from her disappointment in the ladies championship with success in the White Cup Foursomes.

With partner Delyth Thomas, they overcame the very strong challenge of Lesley Sherrard and Rhian Jones to close the game out on the 17th hole.

Delyth Thomas went on to win a second trophy with partner Bobby Woodruff. They won mixed foursomes competition, the Dr AM and Mrs Jones, against previous winners Nicola Sims and Jeff Plevey.

Congratulations go to the various winners, and well done to the runners-up who had battled through many knockout stages to get to the finals day.

Special thanks must go to the club staff that provided the catering and drinks through a very long day, and the large number of players and visiting teams were grateful for their efforts.

**BARRIE JONES**



*Delyth Thomas and Sheila Morrow (right), winners of the White Cup foursomes. Lesley Sherrard and Rhian Jones, runners-up, on the left. Past lady captain Carole Harris (centre).*



*Delyth Thomas and Bobby Woodruff, winners of the Dr AM and Mrs Jones Foursomes Trophy (right). Jeff Plevey and Nicola Sims, runners-up, (left) with club president and referee Brian Coffin (centre).*



*Wendy Motton (second left), the winner of the ladies bronze championship. Janet Williams, runner-up (second left) and Lynda Campbell, lady vice-captain and referee (centre).*



*Linda Bird (second right), winner of the May Fellows Bowl and runner-up Sheila Davies (second left). Referee Marilyn Davies (centre).*



*Club champion Lloyd Evans (right) with runner-up Tim Hanson (left). Tony Cumming, club captain and referee (centre).*



*Matthew Gill and Ian Pearcey (on left) winners of the H Reagan Foursomes Trophy. Runners-up Mark Gallivan and Mike Veryard (right) with referee club vice-captain Norman Robbins (centre).*



*Ladies champion Pat Jarvis, second left. Sheila Morrow, runner-up (second right). Tina Church, lady captain and referee (centre) and their two caddies.*



*Darren Jeffries on the left, winner of the Dragon Trophy with Mark Costello, the runner-up.*



*Tim Hanson (left) winner of the R Rickards Trophy. Paul Wheatley (right) runner-up with club captain, Tony Cumming and caddy Ken Howells.*



*Nicola Sims, winner of the Blod Lewis Cup on the right and Margaret Curry, runner-up on the left. Past captain Wendy Motton was the referee.*



PICTURED: the successful students Morganne Gomez Jones, Jamie Halford, Liam Rees, Dominic Todd and Chelsea Rees; Matthew Bennett, Thomas Haysham, Bradley Halford, Lucy Newman; Ollie Tipples, Jensen Rees, Cameron Williams, Cian Allen and Shannon Haysham. Missing from the picture is Keita Enfield.



## Tae Kwon Do students excel

CONTINUING on from our recent success at the WOMAA world games, the Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwon Do travelled to Liverpool to attend the fifth tournament of a series of six Welsh master tournaments.

The club came away with a total of 29 medals, 12 gold, eight silver and nine bronze.

After a successful tournament, travelling home on the Sunday, the club competitors and supporters spent the day at West Midlands Safari Park where a good time was had by all.

Successful in their respective categories were: Cian Allen, gold in traditional patterns, silver in

both the point and continuous sparring; Lucy Newman, bronze in point sparring, silver in traditional patterns; Cameron Williams, gold in point and the continuous sparring, bronze in traditional patterns.

Shannon Haysham, silver in both point and continuous sparring; Thomas Haysham, gold in both point and continuous sparring.

Ollie Tipples, gold in point sparring and silver in the continuous sparring; Liam Rees, bronze in the point and continuous sparring; Matthew Bennett, gold in continuous sparring and bronze in the point sparring; Morganne Gomez Jones, bronze in both the point and continuous sparring; Keita Enfield, bronze in point sparring.

Representing the Colcot School of Tae Kwon Do, Chelsea Rees took the silver in continuous sparring, with Jamie Halford, gold in the continuous sparring and silver in the point sparring; Jamie also competed in the advanced men's point sparring where he took gold.

Bradley Halford took gold in both the point and continuous sparring.

Bradley also fought up a category in the point sparring and took the gold.

Following in his older brother's footsteps and competing for the first time, young Jensen Rees took the bronze in continuous sparring.

For further information, phone 01446 406372 or 07816 417494. RT

## Karate competitors shine



PICTURED left: Members of the Rising-Sun Kyokushin Karate Club. Four of their members represented their country at the British Open Championships

ON Saturday, October 1, a team of four competitors from the Rising-Sun Kyokushin Karate Club were selected to represent Wales at the BKK British Open Championships at the K2 Arena in Crawley, West Sussex.

In preparation for this tournament, club members were up at 5am three days a week training before work, whilst having to fit in family life, extra afternoon training sessions and usual evening classes.

First on for the club in the novice heavyweight section was Paul Stephens.

Paul had three tough, durable opponents but with his determination and great punching power he gained the unanimous decision and

the well deserved British 2011 Open Champion title.

Heavyweight hopeful Des Brown fought extremely well, he went three rounds with his second Dan blackbelt opponent and stood strong, not giving any ground away. Des fought relentlessly to the end of the match, where the decision just went to the opposition.

Caroline Whitlock took third place in the women's under 65 kilo category after a great effort in the semi finals. Caroline was caught with a kick to the head and her opponent was given the win; although Caroline was willing to continue, the referees and judges thought the decision should stand.

Sempai Spencer Bennett competed in the under 70 kilo category.

He won his first match by ippon (full point), first of all by

catching his opponent with a jumping spinning heel kick to the head, and shortly after with a roundhouse kick to the head.

This stopped the English adversary in his tracks and Spencer took the round by storm.

Sempai advanced to the quarter final rounds, where he broke nine boards with three consecutive strikes.

The reason for the board breaking is to determine a winner if a draw occurs at the end of a round.

Spencer's next match was against Swedish opponent Westley Jensen.

The match saw Spencer dominate the fight in both rounds, but only managed to get a draw.

The match again came down to board breaking, where both men broke the same number of boards.

The overall decision then came down to weight, which the Swede won by having a five kilo weight difference.

Spencer took fifth place in the world last year and has been ranked as being in the top three best light-weight fighters in the Kyokushin world.

He has been chosen to compete in Poland in November to challenge the best fighters in the world.

The Rising-Sun Kyokushin Club train at the Samurai Dojo, Savoy Buildings, Barry.

Anyone can come along for a first free lesson, Mondays 6pm-7pm juniors, 7pm-8pm seniors.

For latest news and info visit our website [www.rising-sun-kyokushin.co.uk](http://www.rising-sun-kyokushin.co.uk)

LH

# GOLFING FARMERS TOUR TORBAY!



TWENTY-EIGHT members and guests of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society (pictured) recently returned from a very enjoyable three-day tour of Torbay, playing excellent courses in Exeter, Torquay and Thurlestone.

Playing for the David Evans (Agriculture) Ltd Trophy, the 54-hole stableford competition was keenly contested with just six points separating the top five, Glyn Watts-Jones taking first place with an overall score of 99 points.

Runner-up, with 97 points, was Chris Rooney, followed in joint fourth place by Clive Thomas and Barrie Melhuish, who both scored 94 points. Bryan Owen with 93 points, finished fifth.

Results from the daily competitions: Thursday, October 6 at Exeter Golf Club – winner, Jim Hayes 36 points; 2nd, David Williams with 36 points; and 3rd, Tony McCarthy with 34 points.

Friday, October 7 at Torquay Golf Club – winner, Chris Rooney with 38 points; runner-up, Aubrey Thomas with 36 points; 3rd, Barrie Melhuish with 36 points.

Saturday, October 8 at Thurlestone Golf Club – winner

Clive Edwards with 38 points; runner-up Clive Thomas with 37 points; 3rd, Gwyn Thomas with 36 points.

Members are now looking forward to their next meeting, scheduled for Thursday, October 27, at Newport (Rogerstone) Golf Club when they will be competing for the NFU Mutual team trophy, together with some excellent individual prizes supplied by sponsors Julian Kelly and David Harris.

Unfortunately, David will not be competing due to recent surgery on an old rugby injury; members wish David a speedy recovery.

TMCC

## Vale schools grab their first win

VIRGINIA Park, Caerphilly was the venue for the second fixture of the season for the Vale District under-11s against Rhymney.

From the whistle the home side was under pressure from some great counter rucking. The Vale put together some excellent ball handling, and continued this through phase after phase.

Due to Rhymney's excellent tackling it wasn't until the 10th minute that the Vale went over to open the scoring.

Vale attacks kept coming but they could not quite finish some great moves and ran in a further score before the half time whistle.

The restart saw Rhymney keep the ball tight and begin to win the breakdowns. For all of their efforts, however, they could not get an attack out of their half and some crunching tackles from the Vale's

three quarters set up quick ball for counter attacks.

This half was much closer but further well-worked tries saw The Vale Schools run out deserved winners with four unconverted tries.

Final score: Valley Schools, 0 - Vale Schools, 20.

Squad: Mikey Bosley, Ben Jones, Owen Durlucia, Barty Jones-Norton, Lewis Hawk, Lewis Bumford, Daniel Hicks, Jack Dixon, Ellis Smith, Ewan Griffiths, Ruben Williams, Luke Connor, Ben Batten, Louis Harris, Cai Lloyd, Iwan Hadfield, Evan Thomas, James Rees, Thomas Jac, Barney Langdon, Joseph Jones, Ioan Williams, Jamie Howells, Jac Little, Wil Parsons, Rhys Bradshaw, Aaron Arthur.

MB

GEM NOTE: For a report of the first game of the season, see page 42.

## Bowls AGM

THE annual general meeting of the Llantwit Major ladies' bowls club will take place on Monday, October 24, and as usual will be held at the Bowling Pavilion, Llantwit Major, commencing at 10am.

The agenda for this meeting is on the noticeboard. Any alterations to the rules relating to bowling, whether league or friendly, can be discussed.

Please make every effort to attend and if a lift is required, please do not hesitate to ask.

Ladies also please bear in mind Thursday, November 17, at 7pm when our club AGM will take place, again at the Pavilion.

PC

## FLINT DOES THE DOUBLE

KENFIG Hill's John Flint landed a 325-1 double with *One For Jules (11-1)* and *Heavenstown (25-1)* at Ffos Las on Sunday.

Both were ridden by his son Rhys and the former, a four-year-old bay filly, won by six lengths from *Taste The Wine* and the latter, a five-year-old chestnut gelding, scored by one-and-three-quarter lengths from *The Romford Pele* ridden by the legendary AP McCoy.

*One For Jules* is owned by Flint, a former Llanwrn steelworker who has been dubbed 'Eagle Eye' by the Racing Post owing to his knack of buying horses that go on to better things. *Heavenstone* is owned by retired farmer Malcolm Page from Pencoe who, although he backed his horse at 33-1 told me: "That was a nice surprise."

Those few punters who backed the horse on the tote were rewarded with odds of just over 48-1!

The disappointment of the race was Tim Vaughan's heavily-backed *Minella For Party*, which cost £75,000 but who could only finish third.

John Flint, who is assisted by his wife Martine, was landing his first double at the course and his French-bred *Kapdor* which finished third under his son Tom, behind *Manadam* and *Colditz* in the conditional jockeys' race, looks

like one to keep an eye on.

Followers of champion jockey AP McCoy were delighted when he brought home the 5-1 favourite *Sentimental Journey* in the Gwynne Price Handicap Hurdle.

However, the runner-up *Illysanta Christina*, who was beaten by three-and-a-half lengths, was not disgraced. Haverfordwest's Dai Rees saw his *Come Home Quietly* land the novice steeplechase beating *Old Wigmore* by half a length in an exciting finish.

Despite drizzling rain throughout the day, a large crowd, many from the Vale of Glamorgan, attended and by the time the riders for the Countryside Alliance Rural Race Challenge Charity Race lined up for the start, it was getting dark. First past the post was *Tea For Three*, the 5-2 favourite ridden by West Wales trainer Rebecca Curtis and which proved too speedy for the Tim Vaughan-trained *Saute* ridden by Craig Messenger.

The opening maiden hurdle race went to 20-1 outsider *Candelita* trained by Lambourn's Jo Hughes and ridden by Mark Grant. *Candelita* had half a length to spare over the favourite *Big Time Billy* at the finish.

Brian Lee

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 ■ Contact through
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Hafod Housing Association is committed to providing safe and sustainable environments, and will be asking for references and undertaking interviews with prospective tenants to achieve the full potential for this development.

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Avocat Court	25	Gold	02/09/11
Aberaeron Close	107	Gold	12/05/11
Butt-Lee Court	103	Gold+	15/06/10
Buttrills Walk	18	Gold	18/07/11
Cresswell Court	50	Gold	16/06/11
Cwm Parc	13	Bronze	20/09/10
Dunlin Court	48	Gold	22/08/11
Merganser Court	43	Gold	25/07/11
St Govans Close	11	Gold+	07/06/11
St Govans	14	Silver	08/06/11
St Lukes Avenue	37	Gold+	4/4/11
Tennryson Road	95	Gold	01/04/11
Ty Carrig	14	Silver+	12/09/11
Vere Street	27	Gold	
West Walk		WITHDRAWN	



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When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.

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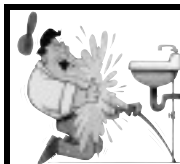
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Thank You.  
Wendy  
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# GEM Family Notices

## Family Notices

### KIRWAN Anne Marlen

Passed away peacefully on 4th October 2011, Marlen, beloved wife of Bill, most loving mother to Sharon and Sara; a cherished Granma and Great-Granma, will be dearly missed by all her devoted family and friends. Marlen will be received into Our Lady and St Iltyd's R C Church, Ham Lane, Llantwit Major on Thursday 13th October at 6.30pm. The funeral will take place on Friday 14th October at 10am followed by interment in Llantwit Major Cemetery. Family flowers only, however donations will be gratefully received for the Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o Mrs C James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhosce, CF62 3DZ.

### LEWIS Gwilym

Suddenly on October 6, 2011, Gwilym of Llantwit Major. Dear loved brother of Danny, Gilbert, Maureen, George, Dorothy, Terry and Thelma. He will be sadly missed by family and friends. Resting at WA Brown & Son, College St, Llantwit Major until the funeral on Friday October 14 2011, service in Bethel Baptist Church at 12 noon followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 1.15pm

### MALLET Robert 'Rob'

Peacefully on 4th October at his home in Llantwit Major. Beloved husband and best friend of Christine, father of Darren and Lorence, loving son of Dylis and the late Albert, brother to Charlie, Michael, Richard and sister Sandra and brother-in-law to Chris. Funeral service at Holy Cross Church on Monday, 17th October 2011 at 12.30pm followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium. Resting at Thomas Brothers. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

### HUDD Terence Edward

Peacefully at Llandough hospital after a short illness, Terry Hudd, loving husband of the late Margaret, father of Nicolas, Johannes and Simon, grandfather of Karen, Lloyd, David-John & Daniel, brother of Mabs. Resting at A G Adams until the funeral on Monday 17th October at 2 o'clock, followed by cremation at Vale of Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu can be made to Cancer Research via the funeral director.

### DAVIES (nee Maddy) Betty Margaret

Peacefully on 6th October 2011 Betty, mother of Michael and partner Mandy, grandmother of Aimee, will be sadly missed by all family and friends. Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Thursday, 20th October 2011 at 11.30am. No flowers by request, donations in lieu may be sent to Crossroads, Care in the Vale (EMI) Ltd, Room 24 West House, Stanwell Road, Penarth, CF64 2YG.

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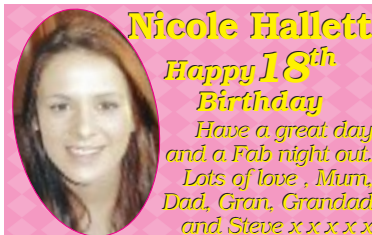
### LY ATTYA



Wishing you  
a very Happy  
Birthday for  
12th October  
all our love from  
your girls and the  
family xxx



Happy  
Birthday  
SIMON  
MATSON-  
THOMAS  
Love from all  
your family  
and friends



Nicole Hallett  
Happy 18th  
Birthday  
Have a great day  
and a fab night out.  
Lots of love, Mum,  
Dad, Gran, Grandad  
and Steve x x x x x

## Carer Available

### Carer Assistance Available for Vale of Glamorgan

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# Sea View Ravens go down fighting

SEA VIEW RAVENS RFC  
GWERNYFED

10  
24

SEA VIEW  
RAVENS RFC  
started its WRU  
Division One sea-  
son, having had  
their first two  
games postponed at  
short notice.

The View quickly  
took the lead after some  
fantastic running from  
full-back Savannah  
Ahmun, which saw her  
run almost the full  
length of the field to  
score in the corner. The  
opportunity to extend  
the lead was not taken  
with a missed conver-  
sion.

Gwernyfed came  
back slowly but surely,  
resulting in three well-  
worked tries before the  
end of the half. Two  
were converted for a  
half-time score of 5-19  
in favour of the visitors.

After the restart,  
Gwernyfed looked to  
carry on their try scoring  
and would have done so,  
but for some fantastic  
defensive work from  
flankers Rachel Sims  
and Angharad Synan  
and backs Melissa Clay  
and Kayleigh Salmons.

Full-back Ahmun put  
in some crunching last-  
ditch tackles as Gwern  
piled on the pressure.  
Gwern's hard work paid  
off with a further uncon-  
verted try midway  
through the second half.

The Ravens, however,  
didn't let this deter them

and kept fighting to the  
end. They were reward-  
ed when some loose  
play on Gwernyfed's  
part resulted in Savannah  
Ahmun crossing the line  
in a similar fashion to  
her first try.

Sea View Ravens  
would like to wish  
Gwernyfed good luck  
for the rest of the season  
and are looking forward  
to the return fixture. The  
Ravens would like to  
thank their fantastic  
home support for a great  
turnout in such bad  
weather.

Anybody interested in  
joining the Ravens, part  
of the youngest rugby  
club in south Wales,  
regardless of experience  
levels or fitness, can  
contact manager Dean  
McCarthy on 07896  
885164, or visit  
www.seaviewrfc.co.uk.

## FRIENDLY MATCH

THE men had a friendly  
match against Old  
Penarthians, losing 26-  
12 in a hard fought  
encounter.

Tries were scored by  
captain Joe Maytum  
and Nathan Dyball. It was  
a good result against a  
club several leagues  
above them.

This week, the Firsts  
are away to Whitchurch,  
and the Seconds at home  
to Llanishen.

MV

## NEWS FROM BARRIVALE BRIDGE CLUB



ABOVE: Tom Kendrick and Dave Thomas,  
winners of the recent Nancy Malpas Trophy  
THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge  
Club are as follows:

Tuesday, October 4 - first, Mark Roderick  
and Gerald Gould (63.89 per cent); second, Alan Jones  
and Lyn Matthews (59.72); third, Denis Mottram  
and Noelle Bond (58.33).

Alan and Lyn won on handicap  
New members are always welcome at Barrivale.  
For more information, telephone 01446 733425.

## CALLING CLUB OFFICIALS!

We welcome your news, reports and  
other items of interest - email us at:  
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- Intelligent Protection System (IPS)
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- Quickclear heated windscreen



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# Barry Athletic cricket juniors presentation

LAST Saturday saw the end of season presentation night for the Barry Athletic CC Junior Section and it was time to celebrate and applaud all the excellent performances during the 2011 season.

The night's entertainment included a visit from Church Homes with some fantastic cricket equipment, games of bingo, a trophy and presentation with special guest Mike O'Shea from Glamorgan Cricket Club, a buffet, and raffle and plenty of music.

A big thank you has to go to BACC junior co-ordinator, Joanne Hopkins, for all her efforts in organising the night and also to everyone else involved, which went a long way in ensuring that the night was a massive success.

Despite a lot of competition for the awards, the winners were as followed:

Under-13s – Batsman of the Year: Thomas Jones; Bowler of the Year: James Scott; Fielder of the Year: Harry

Lambert; Player of the Year: Kieran Ferriday.

Under-11s – Batsman of the Year: Sam Hopkins; Bowler of the Year: Joshua Eady; Fielder of the Year: Jack Killin; Player of the Year: Rhys Woolmer.

Under-9s – Batsman of the Year: Reuben Hopkins; Bowler of the Year: Matthew Eady; Fielder of the Year: Wesley Baker; Most Improved Player: Kes Morrissey.

Are you interested in playing junior cricket?

A club spokesman explained: "We welcome all boys and girls between the ages of six and 15 and would love to hear from you.

"If interested, please get in touch with one of the club representatives or e-mail the club at barryathleticcc@live.co.uk."

For further details of the club, please visit the club's official website, at

www.barryathleticcricketclub.webs.com.



Barry Athletic CC under-11s' coach Scott Hopkins, handed his first bat of the season from Mark Fisher of Church Homes and the players don't take long to try out the new kit!

## Hat-tricks for both Evan and Tim

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

Lancarfan's Evan Williams and Aberthyn's Tim Vaughan both had hat-tricks last week.

At Ludlow on Wednesday, Evan saddled the last three winners scoring with Jolly Roger in the Beginners' Chase, Traitor in the Juvenile Maiden Hurdle and Oscar Sunset in the Open National Hunt Flat race.

Jolly Roger, a 11-4 chance, beat stable companion Wester Ross by 11 lengths. The lightly raced Traitor, who went off a 4-1 chance, had two-and-a-half lengths to spare over the Tim Vaughan trained Sadinour and Oscar Sunset, an odds-on favourite, won by eight lengths from Lieutenant Dan. All three were ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney.

Twenty-four hours later at Worcester, Tim scored with Elsafer,

Captain Dash and Loco Grande. Elsafer won the novices' hurdle race, Captain Dash the handicapped chase and Loco Grande the selling handicap hurdle.

Elsafer, the 11-8 favourite, won by two lengths from Brough Academy, Captain Dash scored by five lengths from The Grey One, who was finishing in the place reserved for the runner up for the third time in a row, and Loco Grande, an 8-1 shot, won by a length and a quarter from Platin Grounds. Captain Dash was ridden by Michael Byrne and the other two winners by Richard Johnson.

Bargoed's Bernard Llewellyn took the Ladbrokes' Handicap Hurdle at this meeting with 9-1 outsider DanceWithTheDevil who scored by 14 lengths from the Evan Williams trained Argum. Tim Vaughan's Kack Handed took third place.

## Special course for sports coaches

SPORTS coaches and volunteers are invited to sign up for a 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport' course that is being held at the Civic Offices in Barry on Thursday, November 3 from 6pm to 9pm.

The 'Sportscoach UK' workshop will help participants recognise the signs of abuse and the difference between good and poor practice and will advise on how to deal sensitively and effectively with issues that may arise.

The course costs £23, including the cost of an accompanying book. The deadline for enrolling is Thursday, October 20.

To book a space, contact Julie Morgan in the Vale Council's sports and play development team on 01446 704748.

The course has a recommended minimum age of 18, unless Sport Wales have been notified and 16 to 18 year-olds are accompanied by a parent/guardian, coach or mentor (aged over 18).

## CALLING CLUB OFFICIALS!

We welcome your club's reports, news and other items of interest.

Email us at:

gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

# Sea View keep unbeaten record

IN weather more suited to beach rugby, Sea View were hosts to Canton RFC.

Avoiding their usual slow start, the View took the game to Canton from the off. Leon Ford crossed the line first after some good hands between forwards and backs.

A Canton infringement at the breakdown gave the View the chance to extend the lead and a well-struck penalty sailed between the uprights to give Sea View a 10-0 lead.

Canton struck back with a well-taken try to reduce the deficit before Josh Barker steamed down the wing to score in the corner for his first try for the club.

With Canton adding a penalty to their score, Sea View led 17-8 at the turn round.

Sea View shot out of the blocks at the start of the second half, a split ball saw the View centres carve a hole in the defence, with Williams

SEA VIEW FIRST XV 38  
CANTON 20

making a 40-metre break before passing to James Braithwaite who rather than risk spoiling his hair diving over the line, selflessly passed to Nathan Harding who scored under the posts.

A lapse in concentration allowed Canton back into the game, and with two tries they closed the gap to 24-20.

Digging deep, the View came back with two more converted tries, one from a move off the back of the scrum, with Cack scoring under the posts, and for the second, Harding hacked through, chased and with the ball bouncing nicely for him gathered and scored his second try for a final score of 38-20.

Unbeaten in the league with bonus points as well, the View are riding high, a testament to the training regime of Messrs Staniforth, Morgan and Williams.

The Second XV are finding it tough in the restructured league, and a hard away fixture against Rhiwbina saw them lose 68-0. Despite the score-line there were plenty of positives to take from the game.

Even when injury reduced them to 14 they never gave up. The final quarter saw some decent attacks with Nathan Pearson breaking the gain line on several occasions. Matt Ellis made a promising debut at flanker, coming on for the injured Gary Palmer. Special mention also to Julian Evans having his first game for six years!

As always, thanks to our supporters for attending both matches, thanks to Barry Island Sports and Social for post match hospitality. This weekend there are no league fixtures due to cup matches, so our friends from Old Penarthians will be the visitors for a friendly fixture, kick off 2.30pm at the Comp.

MV

## Meet the Vale's new 'active' motivators

TWO new motivators are in place to help inspire teenagers in the Vale to play more sports as part of the 5x60 scheme, and both have their sights on improving activity levels ahead of the London 2012 Olympics.

Chris Ferrier and Rachel Shepherd are the latest additions to the Vale Council's 'Active Young People' team, completing a quartet of 5x60 officers who are working in local secondary schools.

They are tasked with co-ordinating a range of sports during break times, lunch times and after school that help get children active for at least 60 minutes, five days a week (5x60).

The sessions are run in addition to the PE classes that pupils receive, and teens are encouraged to carry on with the activities they like by joining community clubs.

Former Welsh junior international gymnast Rachel Shepherd has recently returned to her home town of Barry having spent the past eight years working in sports development roles across England.

She is now flying the 5x60 flag in both Bryn Hafren and St Richard Gwyn secondary schools and among her aims is to entice older girls into taking part in sports by providing Zumba and fitness-based classes.

Chris Ferrier has a

strong background in sports coaching and will be using his experience of being involved in several sports including badminton, football, golf and rugby, to help the pupils at Cowbridge and Llantwit Major secondary schools hit the recommended exercise targets.

Chris and Rachel join Vale Council's two other 5x60 officers, namely Pete O'Sullivan (Stanwell and St Cyres) and Steffan Williams (Bro Morgannwg and Barry).

## Youngsters in 'feisty' derby clash

Dinas A v Dinas B under-13 Cup

IN a feisty encounter between the two Dinas under-13 teams, the A team eventually beat the B team 4-2 in the first round of the Cup, after extra time was needed.

However, the B team took a 1-0 lead with a well worked goal by Will Union, following an excellent cross by Aled George.

The independent ref then awarded a penalty to the A team which was superbly saved by the B team keeper, Ben Karatas, to maintain the B team's lead just before half time.

Ben had a superb match between the sticks.

At the start of the second half, Conor Walton pounced on a mistake by the A team defence to make it 2-0 to the Bs and the big upset looked on, though neutrals felt there was very little difference between both

With 10 minutes to go, the A team managed to get a goal back and the B team defence began to come under a lot of pressure.

In the last couple of minutes, the pressure told and the A team got the equaliser, and extra time beckoned.

The A team proved their superior fitness and managed to score two goals in extra time, to take their place in the next round of the Cup.

The B team coach Huw George said: "I'm extremely proud of all the boys today, and they fought to the very end, and are very unlucky not to still be in the Cup."

"I want to offer my congratulations to the Dinas A team and their coach Wayne, and we hope they all the way and win the Cup."

CW

## Pontypool power pack to tip the balance

Vale Schools 7, Pontypool Schools 19

THE first of the schools' district under-11 matches for the Vale was at home in Penarth on a sunny day in

October!

The conditions were perfect for running rugby and the new Vale squad was eager to get some competitive rugby.

The home side were put under pressure from the kick off as the large Pooler group of players won the ball at the

breakdown and set up attacking phases in the Vale's 22. Sturdy defence kept out the visitors, but after 10 minutes the home side could not get out of their own half.

Good handling from a sharp set of Pontypool backs let in the right wing to show his speed and run in a well-deserved try.

The visitors were getting control of the game in the forward battle, which set up a good platform for some three-quarter moves.

The Vale's tackling had to be on top form and some hard hitting kept the scoring down.

The pressure was immense and it was only a matter of time before the visitors ran in two similar tries to lead 19-0 at the half-time whistle.

With rolling subs from both sides, the second period started with the same ferocity as the first but it was the Vale who pressurised the Pontypool 22. With some excellent fringe play the Vale backs, now showing some class with great combinations, terrorised the try line.

The visitors, to their credit put in the tackles to keep the score the same but with a terrific run and excellent support play and off loading out of the tackle the Vale went over for well deserved try.

Changing some positions for this developing side certainly worked and they began dominating the breakdowns and a great come back was on the cards.

Time was against the Vale and although they almost went over for two more scores, the game ended with the Pontypool District schools worthy winners. A good start to a long and tough season.

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## 'Driving with the roof down does wonders for the soul'

THE slogan from the outdoor advertising campaign for the Renault Mégane Coupe-Cabriolet, humorously and memorably refers to the car's magnificent panoramic glass roof – successfully setting it apart from metal-topped competitors like Peugeot, Ford and Vauxhall.

Inside, the two-door Renault 1.9 dCi (130bhp) Dynamique TomTom has a black sunblind that neatly pulls over its darkened roof in case the sun does shine a little too strongly. There's clearly no need for this in the UK but it will be of use on the continent, I would imagine.

The comfortable black leather seats are appropriate for this vehicle because if they get wet they can be easily wiped



*The Renault Mégane Coupe-Cabriolet*

down. In fact, the whole dark interior has been designed with the elements firmly in mind.

I'm unsure why the button to switch the cruise control on and off is located by the handbrake. Wouldn't it be easier to either remove this switch altogether as the cruise controls are on the steering wheel?

While there are rear seats, they are really only suitable for little ones.

The boot, which has to accommodate the roof when it's down, is only large enough for small items, certainly not my daughter's pushchair, which has to be stowed inside the car.

Driving with the roof down does wonders for the soul and general wellbeing. So often when making my way to work in the mornings, my head and heart are still in bed. Get in the Mégane CC, drop the electric roof – a slick operation carried out in around 30 seconds – put your foot down and it really does invigorate and lifts the spirits.

The roof is only operational if the luggage cover is pulled across your belongings in the boot and the driver must make sure there are no cars parked immediately behind, as the boot moves outwards and could cause expensive

repair bills!

Hacking the roof off a car can compromise stiffness and that has a knock-on effect in the way it drives.

The Mégane CC, which is 25 per cent heavier than a standard Mégane, does suffer a bit.

Today's cabriolets are a huge improvement on those of the 1980s and 90s, where there was an unsightly anti-roll bar in the centre. In these days of high fuel prices I am pleased to see that Renault has fitted a punchy, economical 1.9-litre diesel together with a six-speed box. The fact that it has an enormous 60-litre fuel tank means that it will easily cover 700 miles on a tank.

Renault first introduced a Mégane Cabriolet in 1999, but this version had a canvas roof and was in production until 2003. The revised Mégane Cabriolet started the fashion of the harder-wearing, more secure retractable hard top. The latest version launched in 2010.

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by Tim Saunders



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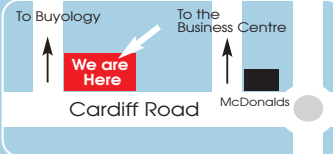


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# GEM sport

## WELSH DEFENCE KEY AS IRISH SENT BACK TO THE EMERALD ISLE... NOW ONLY FRANCE (AND OZ) BLOCK THE WAY TO FINAL WITH CARTER-LESS KIWIS

**N**O sooner had the referee's whistle concluded the last of the pool match qualifiers that set up the clash of the Celts in Saturday's quarter finals of the Rugby World Cup, than the world games began - with the Irish camp artfully letting it be known that they "knew how to beat Wales".

There was some justification for this, given that they had done it on more than one occasion - in fact, 10 times out of the previous 15 encounters alone, with Wales winning just five - including the Grand Slam years of 2005 and 2008.

With the exception of Ireland's record 54-10 win in Dublin on February 3, 2002, they have invariably been close-fought affairs, with barely a handful of points separating the two rivals from either side of the Irish Sea.

Going into Saturday's quarter finals, the record books also showed that despite long years in the rugby wilderness, Wales still headed the wins table with 63 to Ireland's 47 - plus six matches drawn.

For the two camps at Wellington on Saturday, it was déjà vu - they had been there before in a pool match at the inaugural World Cup in 1987.

Wales won 13-6, then defeated England, before falling to the home team and eventual winners in the semi-finals - but defeated

Australia in the third place play-off.

The question now was - would history repeat itself in 2011?

Warren Gatland's young guns answered this in ruthlessly-emphatic style by destroying Ireland's veteran Old Guard 22-10, with a quite stunning display of hugely-committed, high intensity rugby that had even neutral observers singing their praises as the dark horses of this global tournament.

Unlike so many times in the past when sluggish Welsh teams have either struggled to get out of the starting blocks and been forced to chase the game after being caught cold; or have run out of steam long before full time, this superbly-fit squad have now shown themselves to be made of sterner stuff - both mentally and physically.

It would thus be no exaggeration to say that Saturday's game may well come to be seen as a defining landmark on the road to a long-awaited Welsh revival.

It began within three minutes of the kick-off, with a sweeping movement into Irish territory that culminated in Shane Williams slipping in at the corner for his 56th international try, which was converted by Rhys Priestland - who reinforced his claim to the outside half shirt with another impeccable display - on a day when every Welsh player again stood up to be counted.

### BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John



ABOVE: Jamie Roberts, again a colossus in midfield, celebrating the quarter final victory with Leigh Halfpenny.

PICTURE BY HUV EVANS AGENCY

Coolness personified, the young Scarlet has sidelined the tiresome media debate over whether veteran Stephen Jones or versatile James Hook should be at No. 10. (The former was not in the match 22 and the latter made a late appearance from the bench - though he is far too talented to remain on the sidelines for long).

Gatland's team sheet included other big calls, such as Leigh Halfpenny moving to full back, which brought an immediate divi-

dend when he landed a long-range penalty in reply to one by Ronan O'Gara, that made the half time score 10-3.

Within minutes of the restart, Ireland hit back with a well-taken try by wing Keith Earls, converted by O'Gara, which levelled matters at 10-10.

Ireland had strangely declined to use the accurate boot of O'Gara to punish infringements, preferring instead to go for tries which foundered on a ferocious Welsh defence.

Instead, it was Wales who moved further ahead through an opportunist blindside try by man-of-the-match Mike Phillips (now happily restored to top form after his off-field travails).

Priestland's conversion attempt hit an upright, but he made amends when converting a third Welsh try in the final 15 minutes by Jonathan Davies, who had resumed his effective centre partnership with the outstanding Jamie Roberts, as the green challenge petered out - and Wales celebrated a momentous result that takes them into the semi finals at Auckland for the first time in 24 years.

Unlike 1987, they will not be facing hapless England, but erratic France, who lost two matches in the pool stages and yet were able to overcome Martin Johnson's uninspiring troops 19-12 in Saturday's other quarter final at

Eden Park.

Les Bleus have reportedly been riven by discontent off the field, but Wales will still need to be wary of that renowned 'Gallic unpredictability'.

However, Gatland and his fellow coaches have now created a potent fighting force built on an iron-clad, aggressive defence. On current form, if they can now maintain impetus and the consistency that has proved so elusive in the past, there is no reason why they should not overcome the remaining obstacle to a place in the World Cup final. This, barring a huge upset, should be against hosts New Zealand, who face Australia in the other semi final.

The Kiwis, a weakened force without the injured Dan Carter, were flattered by the 33-10 scoreline against dogged Argentina in Sunday's quarter finals; while Australia, who were well beaten by Ireland in the pool stages, scraped an 11-9 win - against the run of play - over defending champions South Africa.

With this young Welsh team's confidence growing by the day, as the RWC 2011 tournament enters the crucial last stages, they now need fear no-one.

First, though, they must overcome the French - and all eyes will be on the team announcement today to see if, injuries permitting, Gatland says 'same again', or opts to make more surprise changes for another momentous day in Welsh rugby history.

## Dinas Powys' cup runneth empty after home defeat

**NINETY** minutes wasn't long enough to separate these two sides and it took an extra 30, a sending off, and a penalty, before the side riding high in division one finally overcame a Dinas Powys side who showed the fighting spirit that was missing the previous week.

The visitors started this game showing why they are second in the first division, forcing Dinas to defend in numbers.

In the third minute, the home side had to clear the ball off the line when the dangerous Neil Phillips got his head to a Rory Smitham corner.

More pressure followed and five minutes later another corner cleared everybody in front of the Dinas goal and Kieran Cullen had the simplest of tasks to tap the ball in at the far post.

The home side slowly fought their way back into the game with Mathew Trotman, returning after suspension, working hard in midfield, but they were restricted to long range efforts until their best move so far in the game.

Started by Richard Yarr, it gave Ricki Morgan a chance to get past a defender and put in a pin-point cross for Mark Dunford to rise unmarked in front of goal and head past Richard Evans in the visitors' goal for the equaliser.

Dinas had fought back well in the first-half and

**Nathaniel League Cup Round Two**  
**Dinas Powys**  
**West End**

**1**  
**2**

could have had a second just before half-time when Mark Dunford again found himself in space in front of goal, but the cross from Richard Yarr was just too high.

Dinas were struck a major blow 15 minutes into the half when Mark Dunford was put through on goal but collapsed clutching his hamstring and had to be carried off by Paul McCarthy replacing him.

Dinas continued to give as good as they got and five minutes from time had a golden opportunity to score.

Mathew Trotman's 40-yard run from inside his own half gave Ricki Morgan the chance to cross the ball for substitute Joe Briscoe to stretch and send the ball towards goal, forcing West End keeper Richard Evans into a excellent save.

There was still time

for the visitors to force a corner when keeper Damien Lack pushed a close range shot round the post. The corner was then headed over the bar by Mathew Dowling.

The first-half of extra time was only really notable for the sending off of Dinas' Dave Penikett and a shot into the side netting from West End's Kieran Cullen.

The visitors scored what proved the winner six minutes into the second-half of extra time when Cullen broke into the penalty area at pace and went down when challenged by two defenders. Although keeper Lack got fingertips to Phillips' penalty, he could not prevent the ball ending in the back of the net.

Despite being down to 10 men, Dinas pushed players forward in search of the equaliser and it was Ricki Morgan who

had the best chance when a Mathew Trotman pass found him at the far post, but his shot ran wide.

This was a gutsy performance against a strong side but Dinas will be counting the cost with Mark Dunford's injury forcing him out for few weeks, adding to their lengthy injury list and Dave Penikett likely to receive a three-match ban for his sending off.

**Squad:** Damien Lack, Steve Provis, Mike Lewis, Chris Hinam, Dave Penikett, Jo Hinds, Ricki Morgan, Richard Yarr, Mark Dunford, Mathew Trotman, Liam Jeremy. **Subs:** Paul McCarthy, Joe Briscoe, Burnett.

**Next game,** Welsh League Division Two, Saturday, October 15, Penrhinwceiber Rangers v Dinas Powys, kick off 2.30pm.

For further news and fixtures see the club's website [www.dinaspowysfc.co.uk](http://www.dinaspowysfc.co.uk)

MW

## LATE TRY BLITZ SEALS BARRY WIN

ON Saturday, Barry entertained a Llanrumney side that had been victorious at this stage in the SWALEC Bowl competition two years ago.

More seasonable weather than of late welcomed the teams. Barry chose to play up the slope into a freshening breeze during the first session.

The home side began by using the elements wisely, but it soon became clear that they would also have to be wary of a big Llanrumney pack.

Another consideration was a pedantic referee, but neither side adapted to his idiosyncrasies.

As early as the 10th minute it was obvious that any transgression would receive summary justice when the official issued each side with a yellow card.

With the Barry second row of King and Williams winning good possession at the lineout, pressure was put on the visiting defence. They

**Barry RFC**  
**Llanrumney RFC**

**33**  
**6**

conceded two penalties in quick succession, allowing Ryan to give Barry a six-point advantage.

Llanrumney proved that they could respond when they too converted two penalty kicks to draw level on the 40-minute mark. One of these infringements was entirely avoidable, being given for a Barry player deliberately kicking the ball away after it had gone into touch.

Barry fell foul of the referee again just before the interval and picked up yet another card for indiscipline at the ruck.

The number of yellow cards being conceded is unacceptable and the problem must be addressed.

Ryan restored Barry's lead soon after the restart with a further penalty and with Jones leading the assault, they set up camp on the Llanrumney line.

This pressure told when Adams took advan-

tage of some poor defending to cross the whitewash, with the added points a formality.

The referee intervened once more, changing a Llanrumney yellow card into red when the miscreant failed to give his name to the official.

A close range try by the captain broke the deadlock, and it was added to by an Adam's try on the stroke of normal time; neither was converted.

With injury time being played the Williams family combined well for J to send D over in the corner for a good converted try.

**Barry:** Ryan, Adams, Provis, Hadfield, D Williams, Hardy, J Williams, O'Sullivan, Evans, Bowditch, King, D Williams, Deguara, Jones, Brown. **Subs:** Westall, O'Sullivan, Hunt.

Barry return to league action against Penygraig at home next Saturday KO 2.30pm.

CO

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